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Talking recipes with Ina Garten

Food, B6

SENIOR THEATER GROUP GOING STRONG

Local, A3

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BHAS still seeks final pact with state

Debt forgiveness remains a key detail

By LOUISE WREGE
HP Staff Writer

BENTON HARBOR — Benton Harbor school board members voted Tuesday to continue negotiations with the state rather than accepting a proposed Financial Recovery Agreement between the district and the Michigan Department of Treasury.

School board trustees in May had approved a separate academic and financial operating plan to turn the district around. It was drawn up by the Benton Harbor Area Schools Community Engagement Advisory Committee, which was created during the summer of 2019, and tweaked by Superintendent Andrae Townsel after he became superintendent in February. That plan was between the school district, the treasury department and the Michigan Department of Education.

Part of that plan was for the school district to ask the state to forgive its almost $11 million in debt, which trustees approved asking for in July.

Board President Joseph Taylor said that because the district is following the academic and financial operating plan, they have time to negotiate the Financial Recovery Agreement.

At the moment, the draft of that agreement does not include any relief for the district's debt and doesn't define what "substantial progress" means. The draft agreement also proposes a project manager position that is similar to the consent agreement consultant position from the previous 2014 Consent Agreement, in which that official reported to the state.

After the meeting, Townsel said the project manager needs to report to him.

"We have the district under control," he said. "There was a national search to get a superintendent. We have a superintendent who is extremely competent and capable and we don't need a sidekick."

He said school officials are still in conversations with officials from the treasury department.

"It's not a done deal. We're still working collaboratively," he said.

Distance learning extended

In addition, it was announced Tuesday that Benton Harbor High School students will not be returning to the classroom at the end of the first quarter.

The board OK'd having the high school students remain completely virtual through the end of the semester, which ends the third week in January.

Townsel said that is the best way to keep the students as safe as possible during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Townsel also reported that the district gained almost 200 students this school year, with 84 of them new and 104 of them returning from other schools.

He said many of the parents have told him that they want to be part of the Tiger nation.

"We welcome them with open arms," he said. "That's our goal, is to earn our

See **BHAS**, page A6

DARK SKIES

Don Campbell / HP staff

A solitary figure walks through blowing sand as the sun sets following a storm Monday night at Tiscornia Beach in St. Joseph.

Culvert project planned along M-139 next year

MDOT's Royalton Twp. project being planned in two phases

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

ST. JOSEPH — The Michigan Department of Transportation is planning for a major road project next year that will impede and at times detour traffic along M-139 in Royalton Township.

The project would focus on culvert replacement, road reconstruction with roadway elevation raised over the culvert, drainage upgrades, added guardrails and permanent pavement markings.

According to correspondence from MDOT's Coloma office, the project will be conducted in two phases.

The first phase, which is mainly tree clearing, will take place from January to March 2021.

The second phase, reserved for culvert replacement and road work, will run from July to September 2021.

Royalton Township Manager Steve Tilly said the culvert tubes will be 35 to 40 feet in length.

"They basically are going to have to take the full section of road out there and replace it," Tilly said. "They're going to lengthen the sides too."

Detours and altered lanes will be utilized throughout the project's two phases.

Tilly said the lane closures will be under flag control for the tree-clearing portion of the project.

"It's only when they are working close to the road," he said. "But a lot of the tree clearing will be down in the ravine. They will have some flag men working."

Detours will be set up during the culvert replacement and road reconstruction portion of the project.

Local traffic on northbound M-139 will be sent from Linco Road to Hollywood Road to John Beers Road, before reconnecting to M-139.

Commercial traffic will be directed to U.S. 31 to Napier Avenue to I-94 and back onto M-139.

Contact: twittkowski@TheHP.com, 932-0358, Twitter: @TonyWittkowski

Getting back to nature – all the way back

Police investigate report of nudist at Grand Mere

By JULIE SWIDWA
HP Staff Writer

STEVENSVILLE — Police are investigating reports of a nude man walking around at state parks in the area recently.

Lincoln Township police were called at 11:15 a.m. Monday to Grand Mere State Park by a person who reported seeing the naked man walking the trails at the park.

Chief Gary Soper said his department was later contacted by another person claiming to have witnessed similar activity at Warren Dunes State Park near Bridgman.

"The description matches our suspect, so we'll be following up on that. We're not sure of charges until after we speak to that complainant," Soper said Tuesday.

The man reportedly seen nude at Grand Mere was described as being 5 feet, 10 inches tall, weighing about 190 pounds with gray hair.

Soper said the responding officer located the 67-year-old man at his home based on a license plate number provided by the complainant.

Soper said the man admitted to the activity. But the officer did not witness the activity, and the man who made the complaint refused to provide his information, wishing to remain anonymous, so no charges have yet been filed.

Lincoln Township police are asking anyone who has seen the above-described man or any other person walking nude through Grand Mere State Park to call police at 429-2557.

Contact: jswidwa@TheHP.com, 932-0359, Twitter @HPSwidwa

Bridgman's Early Bird Eatery moving to South Bend

By TONY WITTKOWSKI
HP Staff Writer

BRIDGMAN — The Early Bird Eatery is relocating from Bridgman to South Bend.

Owners Mike and Jennifer Stone announced their decision to close the Southwest Michigan restaurant Tuesday. The Stones said the pandemic played a large part in their decision to move.

"In 2020, our growth plan was to add another location," Jennifer Stone said. "COVID hit, and we quickly shifted our focus to our staff, customers and remaining safe while we navigated through protocols."

In June 2018, the couple opened their restaurant at 9735 Red Arrow Highway, after buying the previous restaurant at that location, The Olympus.

The Early Bird Eatery became known for its twist on traditional breakfast and lunch dishes. The Stones managed both the front and back-of-house operations, creating a favorite for vacationers and locals who had grown accustomed to The Olympus.

In late 2019, the couple began planning to expand their restaurant featuring made-from-scratch food. However, the prolonged pandemic altered their expansion plans, Jennifer Stone said.

"Now that things have opened back up, we decided to continue moving forward with our initial plan, and pursued the opportunity of locating to South Bend," she said. "This new venture aligns with our family's future and the growth and vision of The Early Bird Eatery. It was a difficult decision to close the Bridgman location, and we are sad to say goodbye to our loyal customers. From the beginning, the Bridgman community has extended a tremendous amount of support, and for that, we are truly grateful."

The Stones will open new The Early Bird Eatery inside

See **EATERY**, page A6

Don Campbell / HP staff

The Early Bird Eatery, located in Bridgman, will soon be moving to a new location in South Bend.

The Newspaper for Southwest Michigan

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Tomorrow's Weather

High 56 Low 41

6 50645 49085 0

Bipartisan Christian group forms super PAC to oppose Trump

By ELANA SCHOR
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — A group of prominent Christians from both sides of the aisle, including a past faith adviser to former President Barack Obama, is forming a political action committee designed to chip away at Christian support for President Donald Trump in the final weeks of the 2020 campaign.

Dubbed Not Our Faith, the new super PAC plans to roll out six-figure TV and digital ads focused on Christian voters – particularly the evangelical and Catholic voters who helped power Trump to victory in 2016. Its first digital ad, set to run in Michigan and Pennsylvania, takes sharp aim at Trump's claim to a foothold with Christians.

The ad, shared with The Associated Press in advance of its release, says Trump "has used Christianity for his own purposes," invoking imagery of the Republican president's photo op outside a historic Washington church amid this summer's racial justice demonstrations. Urging Christians to break from Trump, the ad states that they "don't need Trump to save them. The truth is that Trump needs Christians to save his flailing campaign."

That sharp critique of Trump's standing with Christian voters comes as the president looks to evangelicals in particular to help him muscle to reelection over Democratic nominee Joe Biden. While Biden's campaign is mounting a well-organized faith outreach effort, that work largely focuses on an affirmative case for the former vice president rather than the overtly anti-Trump case that the new PAC is making.

Among the PAC's advisory council members are Michael Wear, a former faith adviser in Obama's administration and reelection campaign, and Autumn Vandehei, a former aide to onetime Republican Rep. Tom DeLay of Texas. Wear said in an interview that Trump has "in a predatory way attached himself to Christians," asserting that the faith would be "better off" without the president.

"Trump eked out 2016 with unprecedented support from white evangelicals and, important to note, a really strong showing among Catholics. We're going after all of it," Wear said. "We think Christian support is on the table in this election."

Trump and his reelection campaign continue to lean heavily on pitches to Christian voters, with the president asserting the baseless claim that Biden and Democrats are hostile to religion.

Republicans are also appealing to voters of faith by claiming that Democrats have unfairly criticized Supreme Court nominee Amy Coney Barrett for her Catholicism, although no Democratic senator has yet raised the issue during Barrett's confirmation hearings.

LOTTERIES

Tuesday drawings

Michigan
Poker Lotto
AD-QH-10C-6H-8H
Midday Daily 3
5-8-5
Midday Daily 4
2-4-8-0
Daily 3
5-4-4
Daily 4
9-0-0-4
Fantasy 5
07-12-18-25-36
Keno
01-06-07-09-12-13-29-30-32-33-36-40-43-44-48-59-61-64-71-74-75-80
Mega Millions jackpot
$69 million
Powerball jackpot
$72 million

Monday drawings

Indiana
Cash 5
06-24-26-29-31
Estimated jackpot
$90,000
Cash4Life
02-14-25-32-35, Cash Ball: 1
Quick Draw Midday
02-03-04-06-07-11-17-21-24-28-35-48-49-59-60-64-65-69-76-80, BE: 80
Daily Three-Midday
6-9-2, SB: 7
Daily Three-Evening
5-9-4, SB: 3
Daily Four-Midday
8-2-2-9, SB: 7
Daily Four-Evening
0-0-1-0, SB: 3
Quick Draw Evening
04-05-09-12-21-24-27-31-37-42-47-51-54-61-62-66-68-71-74-78, BE: 66

Illinois
Lotto
05-09-22-29-46-48, Extra Shot: 6
Estimated jackpot
$7.7 million
LuckyDay Lotto Midday
15-28-35-39-42
Estimated jackpot
$1.4 million
Pick Three-Midday
7-8-8, Fireball: 6
Pick Three-Evening
2-2-2, Fireball: 9
Pick Four-Midday
7-9-9-0, Fireball: 9
Pick Four-Evening
5-5-5-1, Fireball: 8
Lucky Day Lotto
11-13-16-20-38

– The Associated Press

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The Herald-Palladium

P.O. Box 128 • 3450 Hollywood Road • St. Joseph, MI 49085
Volume 152, Number 215

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Home delivery rates:
Mail delivery $30.25/4 wks
EZ-Pay $26.40/month

All subscriptions are payable in advance. Other payment options available by calling Subscriber Services at 269-429-2400.

The Herald-Palladium is printed for your convenience with low-ruboff soy ink and with newsprint containing recycled paper.

David Holgate Publisher
Dave Brown Managing Editor
Sara Horton Advertising Director
Julie Simpleman Circulation Director
Jenn Mann Business Manager

The Herald-Palladium is published daily, Mondays through Saturdays, except for USPS holidays, at 3450 Hollywood Road, St. Joseph, MI and is a consolidation of The Herald-Press and The News-Palladium. Periodicals Mail postage paid at St. Joseph, MI (USPS 387-440). Postmaster: Send change of address to P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085. Member of The Associated Press.

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Agent: Va. governor also mentioned in kidnap plot

By DAVID EGGERT, KATHLEEN FOODY and JOHN FLESHER
Associated Press

Michigan Office of the Governor via AP

Michigan Gov. Gretchen Whitmer addresses the state during a speech Thursday in Lansing. The governor delivered remarks addressing Michiganders after the Michigan Attorney General, Michigan State Police, U.S. Department of Justice, and FBI announced state and federal charges against 13 members of two militia groups who were preparing to kidnap and possibly kill the governor.

GRAND RAPIDS — Members of anti-government paramilitary groups implicated in an alleged plot to kidnap Michigan's governor ahead of the November election because of her measures to slow the coronavirus also discussed abducting Virginia's governor, an FBI agent testified Tuesday.

The disclosure came during a federal court hearing in Grand Rapids, where agent Richard Trask revealed new details about investigators' use of confidential informants, undercover agents and encrypted communication to thwart the purported scheme to abduct Democratic Gov. Gretchen Whitmer.

A judge ordered three of six men charged in the case held without bond until trial, delaying rulings on two defendants. Another was ordered returned to Michigan from Delaware.

"They discussed possible targets, taking a sitting governor, specifically issues with the governor of Michigan and Virginia based on the lockdown orders" they had issued to deal with the pandemic, Trask said, referring to a June 6 meeting in Dublin, Ohio, attended by roughly 15 members of anti-government groups from "four or five states." A criminal complaint said at least two of the defendants were among them.

It wasn't immediately clear if talk of targeting Virginia's Democratic governor, Ralph Northam, continued beyond the meeting. Nothing from the complaint or Trask's testimony indicated that anyone had been charged with plotting against Northam.

But the mention of another governor who, like Whitmer, has drawn attacks from President Donald Trump – and the alleged intent to carry out the kidnapping shortly before the bitterly divisive U.S. election – escalated political tension surrounding the case. Trump urged supporters to "LIBERATE" Michigan, Virginia and Minnesota in a series of tweets in April, encouraging protesters who turned up at state Capitols to oppose restrictions aimed at minimizing the spread of the virus.

Trump falsely claimed in a recent interview on Fox News that Northam, a supporter of abortion rights, had "executed a baby."

The president "regularly encourages violence against those who disagree with him," Northam's spokeswoman, Alena Yarmosky, said in a statement Tuesday. "The rhetoric coming out of this White House has serious and potentially deadly consequences. It must stop."

Whitmer and others have similarly accused Trump of emboldening extremists.

Following the arrests last week, the White House said the president has condemned hate, and Trump tweeted: "I do not tolerate ANY extreme violence."

Northam said during a news conference he and his family felt safe with security Virginia's state police provide, and that he had been threatened before. His protection was tightened this year after he signed gun control legislation.

"I'm continuing my work for the commonwealth as I would any other day," he said.

Yarmosky said the FBI had alerted key members of Northam's security team during the investigation. But in keeping with security protocols for highly classified information, neither the governor nor members of his staff were informed.

During the hearing in Grand Rapids, Magistrate Judge Sally Berens ordered Kaleb Franks, Daniel Harris and Brandon Caserta held without bond. She said she would rule later on Adam Fox and Ty Garbin. All five are from Michigan.

The sixth defendant, Delaware resident Barry Croft, was ordered transferred to Michigan during a separate proceeding.

Trask, the FBI agent, testified that authorities learned of the June meeting in Ohio while investigating various anti-government groups. Authorities have said the men wanted to retaliate against Whitmer because of what they considered her "uncontrolled power" during the coronavirus outbreak.

Trask said Fox, whom investigators describe as a ringleader and was the only defendant without a mask at the hearing, had said during a post-arrest interview he'd considered taking Whitmer from her vacation home out onto Lake Michigan and stranding her there on a disabled boat.

According to the complaint, Fox also spoke of taking her to "a secure location in Wisconsin for 'trial.'"

Some defendants conducted surveillance of her northern Michigan house in August and September, according to the complaint. Authorities said four of the men had planned to meet last week to pay for explosives and exchange tactical gear.

Several defense attorneys suggested during cross-examination that their clients were "big talkers" who didn't intend to follow through with action.

When investigating paramilitary-type groups, "you find a lot of people who talk about things, but they're never a threat to do anything. It's fairly common in these groups?" Scott Graham, attorney for Franks, asked Trask. "Big talk between crackpots – you've seen that, haven't you? People who talk a lot, brashly, boldly, but are never going to do anything about that talk."

Graham described Franks as a "follower, not a leader" and argued he shouldn't be detained before trial. He said Franks was a drug addict but had turned his life around and posed no flight risk.

Assistant U.S. Attorney Nils Kessler countered that Franks should not be released. "There's a serious public safety risk," he said, although not disputing that Franks was more of a follower in the matter.

The judge also acknowledged some of the defendants did not have leadership roles, but said their participation in repeated discussions about kidnapping Whitmer and in surveillance of the governor's home indicated they should remain locked up until trial.

"It is the plot along the way that is clearly very dangerous," Berens said. "This is a very, very serious crime."

The men could get up to life in prison if convicted.

"Anyone who is facing a charge like this would be very concerned," Gary Springstead, an attorney for Garbin, told reporters outside the courthouse. "Literally your life and liberty are on the line."

During the brief hearing in Wilmington, Delaware, Croft waived his right to a detention hearing there but reserved his right to one in Michigan.

Whitmer, who was considered as Joe Biden's running mate and is nearly halfway through a four-year term, has been widely praised for her response to the virus outbreak but also criticized by Republican lawmakers and people in conservative areas of Michigan. The state Capitol has been the site of many rallies, some with gun-toting protesters demanding her ouster.

Seven other men linked to a paramilitary group called the Wolverine Watchmen were charged in state court with allegedly seeking to storm the Michigan Capitol and providing material support for terrorist acts by seeking a "civil war."

The investigation is ongoing.

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Health officer: Looks like a 2nd virus wave

LANSING (AP) — Michigan's chief health officer warned Tuesday that the state could be beginning a second wave of the coronavirus as cases rise along with the number of people in hospitals.

Michigan had 89 new cases per 1 million people per day, up from 81.6 cases last week, the health department said.

About 700 people with COVID-19 were in hospitals, up about 20 percent from last week. The rate of positive tests has ticked up to 3.6 percent from 3.4 percent. It was under 3 percent in June.

"It is very possible this is the beginning of a second wave," said Dr. Joneigh Khaldun, Michigan chief medical executive. "The virus has not changed. It is an opportunist. If people are not wearing masks, if people are gathering, if people are not washing their hands, it will spread."

The number of new cases reported statewide Tuesday was 1,237.

The Upper Peninsula is a hot spot.

We value your input

Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership (Enbridge) is preparing to build the Great Lakes Tunnel under the Straits of Mackinac. Michigan Department of Environment, Great Lakes & Energy (EGLE) is reviewing two permit applications from Enbridge for the project. **Your input is valued and EGLE is providing three simple ways for you to submit your comments.**

Deadline for comments: October 19, 2020

1. US Mail – send a letter
National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit Application **# MI0060278**
Jessica Stiles
Permit Section, Water Resources Division, EGLE
PO Box 30458 Lansing, MI 48909-7958

Wetlands Protection and Submerged Lands Permit Application **# HNY-NHX4-FSR2Q**
EGLE Gaylord District Office
2100 West M-32
Gaylord, MI 49735-9282

2. Online Public Hearings – make a verbal comment
www.michigan.gov/line5 for audio and video meeting information

Wetlands/Submerged Lands Permit Application
Oct. 1 at 1:00 p.m.
Oct. 8 at 6:00 p.m.

NPDES Wastewater Permit Application
Sept. 29 at 1:00 p.m.
Oct. 6 at 6:00 p.m.

3. Online – make a comment via MIWaters online portal
Follow links to MiWaters comment portal
(Enter search for Enbridge Energy, Limited Partnership):
miwaters.deq.state.mi.us/miwaters/external/publicnotice/search

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Infrastructure at forefront of Coloma Twp. supervisor race

By ALEXANDRA NEWMAN
HP Staff Writer

PARRIGIN

WEBBER

COLOMA — Long-time Coloma Township Supervisor Ken Parrigin, having fought off a primary challenge in August, is now facing another challenger in the general election.

Voters will chose between Republican Parrigin and Democrat Jeffrey Webber.

Both candidates highlighted infrastructure as a major priority, if elected.

"My goal is, if I'm reelected, to continue the new construction of our sewer system and improve our water system with the city of Coloma," Parrigin said.

Webber said those projects, and others, need to be expedited.

"I'd like to be the voice of the people because I don't see a lot of things getting done for the residents," Webber said.

Both say they know the right people, and have the right skills, for the job.

"I think I bring a lot to the table," Webber said. "I'm very knowledgeable as far as buildings and grounds, and I'm a person to get things done."

Webber, a graduate of Benton Harbor Area Schools, is currently the facilities and operations director for that district. Before accepting that role in May, he worked in a similar capacity for Niles Community Schools.

"One of the big reasons I came back to Benton Harbor, is I've known they had some issues in the last several years," he said. "So, my last few years working I'd like to spend here, because I feel the board now wants to do the right thing, and see a change, and I feel I bring something to the table for that. So far, it's working really well. We're getting things done."

Parrigin has been supervisor for 17 years, and has owned and operated Quality Paving Co. for over 50 years.

"When we in Coloma Township need the assistance of other government agencies, it's critical to have already built those relationships with key people and to know where to turn to get the job done," he said.

Webber said he used to run Benton Township's Water Department and he served as a Watervliet city commissioner in the early 2000s.

"I was a driving force on the commission for the development of the city's skate park during my tenure," he said.

Parrigin said during his next term he'd like to continue the positive direction the township is going.

"We've seen the growth and development in the township south of I-94 while highlighting our wonderful agricultural-commercial businesses," Parrigin said. "I plan to continue with the joint efforts of Coloma city and Coloma Township in working together to maintain and improve our infrastructure in a way that reduces the cost to all residents."

Webber said he'd like to bring high-speed internet to the far reaches of the township that don't have it.

In addition, he said he would like the township to be more transparent, citing an incident in which he was asked to file a Freedom of Information Act request to see one of the township's budget.

"That's public information that should be readily available to anyone who wants to see it," Webber said.

Parrigin has lived in the Coloma area all of his adult life. He and his wife raised two children. They also have five grandchildren and a dog.

Webber has lived in the township for about 12 years. He and his wife have two dogs, and he has a grown daughter.

Parrigin said people should vote for him because he's poured his heart and soul into his work as the township supervisor.

"I've been here through the good as well as the bad times for the community," he said. "Always available and always ready to contribute in any way needed. My hands-on experience with the workings of local government and the level of my knowledge and involvement far outweigh that of any other candidate."

Webber said people should vote for him because he wants to be a voice for the residents.

"I feel a lot of stuff gets done for out of town people that have property around the lake, and I want to be a voice for the full-time residents too. The residents are who we work for. That's who pays the taxes and they need to have a voice," he said.

Contact: anewman@TheHP.com, 932-0357, Twitter: @HPANewman

Photos by Don Campbell / HP staff

Alison Beck, left, joins students as they color drawings of shoes Tuesday as part of the "Run The Race" shoe drive currently being held at Christ Lutheran Church & School in Stevensville. Donated shoes will be distributed through the Funds2Orgs network which helps small businesses grow in developing countries.

Stevensville school wants your gently used shoes

Several drop off sites available for fundraiser

By HP STAFF

STEVENSVILLE — Students at Christ Lutheran Church & School in Stevensville are raising money one pair of shoes at a time.

People can donate gently worn, used and new shoes in collection boxes placed around the community or at the school, 4333 Cleveland Ave., according to a news release from Neil Webb, the school's principal.

Dozens of shoes have already been collected as part of the "Run The Race" shoe drive being held at Christ Lutheran Church & School in Stevensville.

Students color drawings of shoes Tuesday as part of the "Run The Race" shoe drive at Christ Lutheran Church & School in Stevensville.

The school will earn money from Funds2Orgs based on the weight of the shoes. The money will be used to benefit the Christ Lutheran Parent-Teacher League.

"We are excited about our 'Run The Race' shoe drive," Webb said. "We know that most people have extra shoes in their closets they would like to donate to us. By doing so, we raise money for our PTL, and we have the chance to help families in developing nations who need economic opportunities. It's a win-win for everyone."

The fundraiser runs through Dec. 4.

All donated shoes will be redistributed throughout the Funds2Orgs network of micro-enterprise partners. Funds2Orgs works with micro-entrepreneurs to help them create, maintain and grow small businesses in developing countries where economic opportunity and jobs are limited. Proceeds from the sales of the shoes collected in shoe drive fundraisers are used to feed, clothe and house their families. One budding entrepreneur in Haiti even earned enough to send to her son to law school.

Other local businesses collecting shoes are: Edgewater Automations in St. Joseph, Roger's Foodland in St. Joseph, Totally You Salon in Bridgman, Immanuel Lutheran Church in Bridgman, Harding's Supermarket in Bridgman and Trinity Lutheran Church in Glendora.

For more information, call the school at 429-7111.

SOUTH HAVEN

Senior theater troupe takes show on the road

Plans performance at WMU's Osher Lifelong Learning Institute

By BECKY KARK
For The Herald-Palladium

Photo provided

Don Goodwillie and Sue DeRyke are shown in this photo from October 2019 rehearsing a scene from South Haven Senior Readers Theater group's production of "Love...Take 2," a series of short acts written by South Haven playwright Linda LaRocque.

SOUTH HAVEN — For the past several years, a group of older adults have put their theatric talents to work by staging short, one-act plays at Senior City on 76th Street in South Haven.

The plays, written by local playwright Linda LaRocque, have become such a hit with audiences, that the Senior Readers Theater's annual productions have turned into one of the biggest money-making programs sponsored by Van Buren County Senior Services.

This year, however, the coronavirus pandemic squelched efforts to produce the annual production, but as the old theater saying goes, the show must go on.

And on it will go, thanks to a unique collaboration between Senior Readers Theater and the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute (OLLI) at Western Michigan University.

"Our goal is to have Senior Readers Theater perform in a virtual Taste of OLLI event, hopefully by the end of the year," said Toni Woolfork-Barnes, director of the Lifelong Learning Institute. The Taste of OLLI event takes place each year to acquaint older adults about the enrichment courses, events and trips offered through the Institute.

The institute offers a wide array of non-credit courses and programs, but not Senior Readers Theater.

It was LaRocque who brought the senior readers theater concept to OLLI's attention.

"We had several conversations to make sure I understood what Linda's vision was and once I realized the goal and its potential impact, I was sold or convinced that this would be a great partnership and collaboration, as were other OLLI members, particularly Sharon Wade, OLLI's Events Committee chair," Woolfork-Barnes said.

In addition to being able to perform later this year for OLLI members, the Senior Readers Theater participants from South Haven recently helped lead a fall course explaining about the growing popularity of senior readers theater among older adults.

"Several cast members participated and shared their experiences with Senior Readers Theater and how it has positively impacted their life and I would say well being," Woolfork-Barnes said. "OLLI members were very receptive to what they learned through the course."

South Haven resident Al Coe, who is 91, was one of the cast members who spoke.

"Recruited at age 88 for the 2016-17 season, Readers Theater held more than one gainful surprise for me," he said. "The first, in rehearsals, was how I actually fed off unfailing laughter from our playwright; then from other actors and staff. Next, the camaraderie of everyone as we settled into our roles; also the bonding that occurred off stage and during after-rehearsal dinners at Lakeside Restaurant. Finally, the response from real live audiences fed us so richly. ... We suddenly were enriched with purpose."

LaRocque's short, one-act plays relate the comedic and sensitive issues that older adults deal with, which Woolfork-Barnes said can be both entertaining and educational for audiences.

LaRocque agreed, saying her plays may help young adult students better relate to older adults.

"We say, 'the shortest distance between two hearts is a story,'" LaRocque said.

The plays, she went on to say, could "help college students better understand aging and allow those students a glimpse into the mind of someone 80 years old. Because it's much different than the mind of a 20 year old."

Woolfork-Barnes hopes the collaboration with LaRocque and Senior Readers Theater group from South Haven will grow in the future.

"I am hopeful that Linda will continue to partner with us to offer senior readers productions, as well as offer OLLI senior readers theater courses," Woolfork-Barnes said. "Our goal is to partner with a Western Michigan University's College of Health and Services faculty member to create a WMU OLLI senior theater production that can be presented for students in classrooms where WMU students can learn directly from seniors.

"We want to give students majoring in various fields the chance to engage in dialogue with seniors and learn more about the importance of listening and communication; maybe empathy; and how best to be a medical practitioner with a heart and understanding for treating and serving the more senior/mature patient."

IN BRIEF

Cass County records another COVID-19 death

Cass County added another COVID-19 death Tuesday, bringing its death toll to 22.

The county has recorded five new COVID-19 deaths in less than a week. A spike in deaths is expected after a spike in cases, as Cass County saw about two weeks ago.

The county added eight new cases Tuesday in addition to the death.

Van Buren County remains at 16 recorded deaths. The county added three new COVID-19 cases Tuesday.

Berrien County recorded 16 new COVID-19 cases, 33 recoveries and no new deaths Tuesday.

More recoveries are usually recorded on Tuesdays as contact tracers catch up with their cases on Mondays.

This high number of recoveries brought the county's number of active cases down to about 174, from 191 on Monday, but that's still up from 117 last Tuesday.

Spectrum Health Lakeland's COVID-19 inpatient count remains steady. The hospital had 14 COVID-19 positive patients Tuesday. That's one more than on Monday and down one from last Tuesday.

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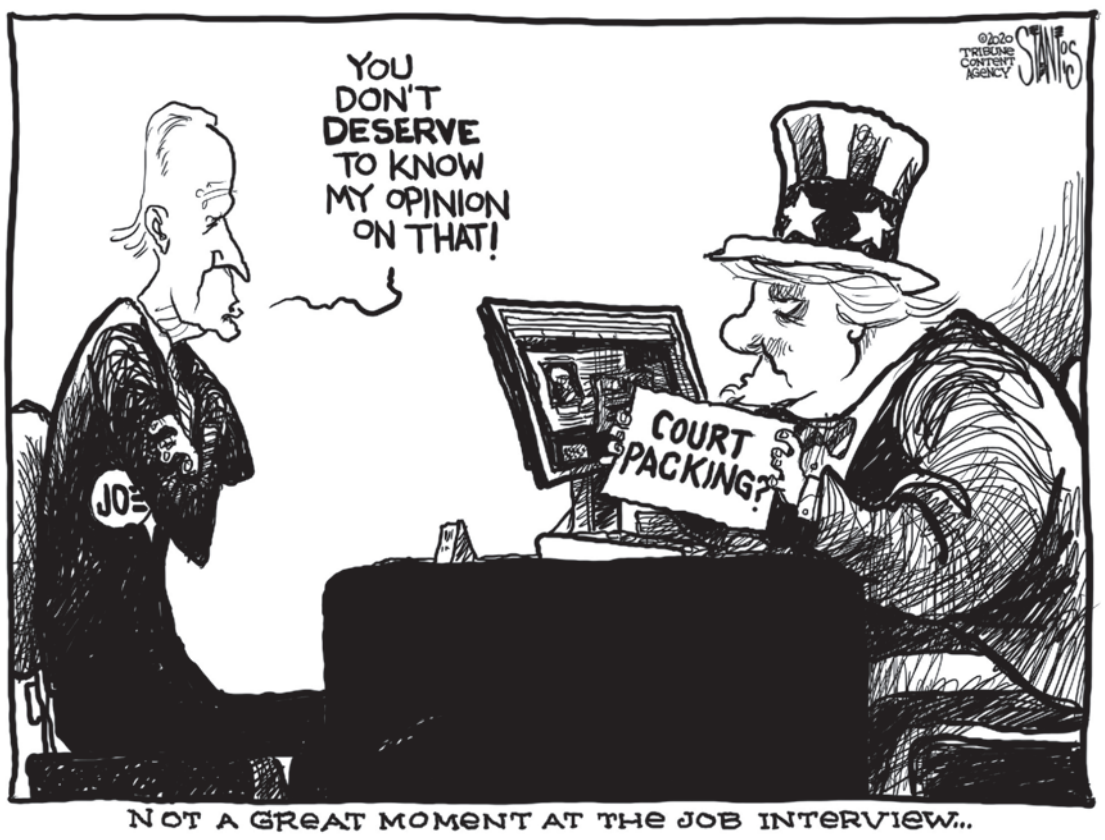
Biden blew the court-packing answer



Jonah Goldberg

With each passing day, Joe Biden's campaign strategy looks more brilliant. From the outset, Biden refused to make himself the issue or get in the way of President Donald Trump's self-immolating behavior.

The single glaring exception? His terrible handling of the court-packing question.

It started as a gaffe – which Michael Kinsley famously defined as a politician accidentally telling the truth. I think Biden made the mistake of explaining his don't-be-controversial strategy rather than merely executing it.

It's a common mistake. George H.W. Bush once read a note-to-self out loud: "Message: I care." Donald Trump does it so often, we barely notice. Remember how he said he didn't want COVID-stricken cruise ship passengers to disembark in the U.S. because it would affect his "numbers"?

Biden was first asked about court-packing by a Wisconsin reporter on Sept 21. "It's a legitimate question," he replied, "but let me tell you why I'm not going to answer that question. Because it will shift the focus. That's what (Trump) wants. He never wants to talk about the issue at hand, and he always tries to change the subject."

By the time of the presidential debate a week later, that answer was locked in. "Whatever position I take," Biden said, "that will become the issue. ... I'm not gonna answer the question."

As a strategy, that's pretty normal – politicians often duck controversial questions that divide their coalition and unite the opposition. But as an answer, the explanation was a hot mess.

Biden should have taken a page from Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell. Until the GOP lost the House, Trump constantly cajoled, pleaded and demanded that McConnell eliminate the Senate's legislative filibuster. McConnell refused to entertain the notion. He just said, "The votes aren't there to change it."

Of course McConnell opposes eliminating the filibuster. And if his past statements count for anything, Biden opposes court packing. If Biden had just said, "The votes aren't there. This is all hypothetical," the message to his base would have been: "Get the votes! Flip the Senate!" The message to moderates: "He's so reasonable."

A one-day story, if that.

If Biden's aim was to prevent court packing from dominating campaign coverage, he failed. Saying aloud that you won't answer an important question because the answer will be controversial isn't something any politician should do. It only chums the water.

The need to defend his misstep has made things even worse for Biden, and for the issue. Last week, when Biden was asked by a television reporter whether voters "deserved" an answer to the court-packing question, he said no. Over the weekend, he claimed the GOP's effort to appoint judges and justices according to the rules was "unconstitutional." Biden, along with many Democrats, has redefined court packing to mean filling existing judicial vacancies, so they can call Republicans the real court packers.

Worse, Democrats (with help from boosters in the media) are pretending there's nothing particularly bad about court packing.

Ever since FDR's failed scheme in 1937, the term has meant expanding the number of seats to make room for additional politically pliable judges. It failed in 1937 because it was seen as a threat to democratic government. "Surely, Mr. Roosevelt's mandate," progressive journalist William Allen White wrote in 1937, "was to function as the president, not as Der Fuehrer." The chairman of the Senate Judiciary Committee at the time, Henry Ashurst (a Democrat), called expanding the court a "prelude to tyranny."

Supreme Court Chief Justice Charles Evans Hughes said FDR's plan would "destroy the Court as an institution." You know who agreed? The late Justice Ruth Bader Ginsburg.

"I think it was a bad idea when President Franklin Roosevelt tried to pack the court," she told NPR's Nina Totenberg last year. "If anything would make the court look partisan, it would be that – one side saying, 'When we're in power, we're going to enlarge the number of judges, so we would have more people who would vote the way we want them to.'"

It's remarkable how many of the people who see Ginsburg's desire to be replaced by a Democrat as "marching orders" (in Sen. Elizabeth Warren's words) find her considered opinion on court packing irrelevant. Even more remarkable: how many of the people who have rightly decried Trump's damage to norms and institutions think the wisest response is to escalate the cycle.

On Monday, Biden finally said what many suspected all along: He doesn't like the idea. That's good news, but it would have been better if he'd said that before the Democrats convinced themselves court packing is a good idea.

Jonah Goldberg is editor-in-chief of The Dispatch and the host of The Remnant podcast.

Ugliness of politics is a big turn-off

Brian Johnston
Opinion Maker

Just the other day, I was checking my mail and noticed that I got a printed advertisement from both candidates who are running against each other for office. I've already made up my mind who I'm going to vote for in that particular race, so I wasn't swayed one way or another by what was on the ads. Yet they got me to thinking about the whole election process that we regularly go through in our country.

I was a political science major in college, and I chose that major because it was a topic that interested me and that I was good at in high school. What's ironic is that learning more about politics has actually turned me away from the whole process. I still vote and still try to pay some attention to what's going on in the world, but my interest has decreased dramatically over the years as I learn more about what it takes to be successful in politics.

There seems to me to be something unwholesome about candidates for office bombarding us with mail, radio, newspaper and TV ads, constantly begging us for our vote. On top of that, they frequently lie, or at least manipulate the truth, in order to get us on their side. All sides are guilty of this, not just Republican or Democrat, conservative or liberal, or anywhere else on the political spectrum.

We have so many candidates, and supporters of candidates, shouting in our ears this time of year that it's hard to know who to believe (if anyone) and how much. It would take many, many hours of background and fact-checking to make the truly informed decision on many candidates and issues that each election deserves. And to be blunt, I don't have the time or the patience to do that.

Most of us don't. If I knew my vote would make *the* difference, I would be much more motivated to do so, but simple arithmetic says that the odds of my vote being the deciding one in any election are so infinitesimally small, as my vote gets lost in a sea of millions, that it's just not worth it. Perhaps this is also why we frequently get such lousy candidates for office (and complain about it later).

This is one of the perils of direct democracy that many of the Founders warned us against; while many of them felt that we the people should have some kind of say in our government, they feared that direct democracy would lead to mob rule. That's why we had safeguards in place at the founding, such as state legislatures selecting U.S. senators and the Electoral College.

Perhaps it's inevitable that that people would gain more power over the years through practices such as direct election of senators and electors to the Electoral College, along with referendums, recalls, and other such procedures. No matter how strong a government is, it's no match for the will of its people. Theodore Roosevelt was among those who claimed that a large mass of people is an irresistible force when it comes to change.

This could be both a good and a bad thing. Over the years, we've seen the people of this country rise up and lead some great and much-needed movements. Yet more direct democracy has also had many negative consequences that are irreversible.

I'm also pessimistic when I hear about how important each election is. Donald Trump and Joe Biden, for example, are very different people, yet whoever happens to get more votes than the other one in a few weeks, that won't change the general direction that we as a people are going in, nor will it solve many of the same problems we continue to face each election cycle.

If you've made it this far into my column, there's a good chance that you're not happy with what you're reading. After all, we as a society hold voting in the highest esteem. Everywhere I look, along with all the ads from candidates for office, there are also pleas to "just go vote" as it is such an important right and duty. In theory, I agree, but in practice, politics is an ugly, dirty game that I want no part of, despite my background in it.

I'm not trying to discourage anyone from voting. What I hope everyone understands is that our duty as a people goes far beyond the mere practice of voting. We need to truly hold our government accountable, not just at the ballot box, but all the time. Maybe then we'll see real change.

Brian Johnston lives in St. Joseph with his wife and two children. You can find him on Facebook at facebook.com/brianjohnstonwriter.

LETTERS

These books offer a proper perspective

Editor,

After watching the Brawl in Cleveland (otherwise known as the first presidential debate of 2020 and perhaps the last) it pushed me, no required me, to pass on what I think would be something beneficial to all who have not yet voted. The process is somewhat arduous but I believe eye-opening.

Here are my thoughts. I think anyone who has not voted or even those who have should read three very important, contemporary and eye-opening books.

The three are:

1. "Hidden Figures," by Margot Lee Shetterly, about three African-American women who in the '50s and '60s at NASA worked on the mathematics of getting America into space after the stark reality of being beaten there by the Russians. This is a book everyone should read and be required reading by all high school students.

2. "1493," by Charles G. Mann, which explains how the beginnings of global trade gave birth to "globalism." It is a convincing explanation of why our world is the way it is and how we got there. "1493" refers to the year after Columbus stumbled into Hispaniola.

3. "Caste: The Origins of our Discontent," by Isabel Wilkerson. This is one of the darkest books of history I have ever read and was exhausted when finished. However it has made me look at our own history in a different light. This was not the "rewriting of history" but a defining of a history glossed over. I told a friend the day I penned this letter that after reading this book, I would be presumptuous to say I could ever walk in Black person's footsteps.

I challenge your readers to read these books and say their historical perceptions did not change.

Robert Becker
Watervliet

We must spend more time listening to each other

Editor,

I know these candidates personally – I have spent hours talking with each of them. I endorse all of them fully and urge you to see for yourself what they say on their websites:

- Jon Hoadley for U.S. Congress
- Chokwe Pitchford for State representative, 79th District
- Dan Vandenheede for State representative, 78th District
- Rayonte Bell for County commissioner, 5th District
- Rich Eichholz for County commissioner, 9th District

Each of these candidates has a clear grasp of the major issues facing us. Each is hard working, intelligent and honest, and will serve us well in office.

I see little value in denouncing Republicans, including Upton and Trump – the facts are clear. I would rather acknowledge that Republicans are my friends and neighbors – and we all need to live with each other.

Civil war is not an option. We can agree to disagree. Being honest is not being impolite. I invite them to genuine dialogue about the issues – economics, inequality, climate change, race relations, health care and many others. Calm, balanced, transparent, mutually listening, inquiring dialogue is needed, finding our common ground, and understanding at a deeper level our apparent differences. This dialogue has been sadly lacking prior to the Nov. 3 election and will be all the more important after. We all love our children!

Eric Lester
St. Joseph

Upton is a voice of reason in Washington

Editor,

For nearly a decade I had a front row seat to watch how Congressman Fred Upton works to represent the families of Southwest Michigan. As his district representative, I witnessed his deep commitment and love for our region that translated into an unselfish example of hard work and care. That passion is what drew me into a life of public service as a representative and senator in our great state.

Too often, in our hyper-partisan world, we are tempted to label our elected leaders as far left or far right. Let me suggest that Fred is neither. Instead he is focused on the most important role that he can play as our voice in our nation's capital – as a voice of reason. He listens carefully to the 750,000 citizens that he serves, seeks solutions to our issues and works daily to ensure that we all are given the best support possible from our government.

Thank you, Fred, for setting an example of service for me and for my family. Thank you for all that you do for our region, our state and our nation.

Join me in voting for Fred Upton for Congress on Nov. 3.

John Proos
St. Joseph
Former state Senator, 21st District

It's time to get over prejudices

Editor,

So SCOTUS Justices Thomas and Alito reason that treating same-sex married couples the same as male and female couples "enables courts and governments to brand religious adherents who believe that marriage is between one man and one woman as bigots, making their religious liberty concerns that much easier to dismiss."

Well, if it makes "religious adherents" uncomfortable to see two men kiss or shudder to imagine how two women make love ... as my father often said, "It's a new world!" Get over it.

Walter Brody
Buchanan

Write us

Here's how to submit a letter to the editor:

Email: letters@TheHP.com

Regular mail: Editorial Page, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085

All letters should include a daytime telephone number and street address for verification. Letters must be 500 words or fewer. The Herald-Palladium reserves the right to edit letters for length, style, grammar, inappropriate content and libel. Anonymous letters will not be published.

Election letters

Due to high volume, letters related to candidates and issues in upcoming elections will be limited to 300 words.

Follow us on Twitter

Managing Editor Dave Brown
@HPEditor

Local News Editor Dale Brewer
@HPBrewer

Singletary's perspective is a delight to read

Editor,

Thank you for carrying Michelle Singletary's column each weekend. I have faithfully read it and always learned something about finances. She makes the lessons easier to learn by sharing stories from her own life and what she learned from her grandmother, Big Mama.

I especially appreciated the article on "The Legacy of Slavery made my grandmother fear investing" (Oct. 12-11). We all learn lessons within our family, and the differences in families does bring misconception between families. I look forward to the next article in the series.

Debra Panozzo
Stevensville

OBITUARIES

Wayne Hendrix

Jan. 12, 1954 – Oct. 7, 2020

Wayne Hendrix, 66, of Benton Harbor departed this life Oct. 7, 2020, at home.

A service celebrating his life will be Oct. 16, at the Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor. The visitation begins at 11 a.m. followed by the service at noon. Those wishing to sign the guest book online may do so at www.robbinsbrothersfh.com.

Wayne was born, Jan. 12, 1954, to Delong and Addie Hendrix in Bessemer, Ala. The family relocated to Benton Harbor in his early teen years. Wayne attended BHAS and loved watching sports games.

He was employed by the city of Benton Harbor for some years, and with Michigan Standard Alloyed, from which he retired. Wayne was a quite respectful person that stayed to himself. He figured that was the best way to stay out of trouble and it must have worked. He never in his 66 years on earth got into any trouble.

Wayne is survived by his children: Eden, Santoria, Wayne, Warren, Danielle Nicole, Akeem OlyJawan, Takeem Mandela and Lashonda; eight grandchildren; brothers: Robert Hendrix of Benton Harbor, Delong (Janet) Hendrix of Staunton, Va., Warren (Debra) Hendrix of Surprise, Ariz.; sister, Patricia Burks of Benton Harbor; a host of nieces, nephews and relatives.

Wayne is preceded in death by his parents: Delong and Addie Hendrix; siblings: James Floyd Hendrix, Lee C. Hendrix, and Wanda Joyce Hendrix.

Erich Schlender

Oct. 25, 1941 – Oct. 9, 2020

Erich Schlender, 78, of St. Joseph passed away Oct. 9, 2020.

Erich was born to the late Theodor and Ottilie Schlender on Oct. 25, 1941, in Jamnow, Germany.

On May 1, 1976, he married Ruth Jane Conklin in Baroda. Together they had two daughters, from a previous marriage; he also had two sons and two daughters.

In 2004, he retired from Premier Tool and Die Tender after 28 years. Earlier in his life, he also helped with the construction of a portion of the Cook Nuclear Plant.

He enjoyed fishing, going to the mountains, NASCAR, and the casino, among with piddling outside with his flowers, and watching his grandson, Micheal, grow up to be the man he is today.

Survivors include his wife, Jane; son, Rodney; daughters: Tamera, Melinda, Nichole, April; many grandchildren; great-grandchildren; many nieces, and nephews.

He was preceded in death by infant daughter, Annette; son, Erick; son-in-law, Rick; brothers; Adolph, Arthur, Waldemar; and sisters: Elsa and Sophie.

Cremation has taken place. There will not be a service or memorial per his request. Arrangements have been entrusted to Hoven Funeral Home, Buchanan. Online condolences may be made at www.hovenfunerals.com.

Lois Stepich

Feb. 16, 1942 – Oct. 11, 2020

Lois Evelyn McGaughey Stepich was born Feb. 16, 1942, to Phyllis Olson McGaughey and Emil Rankin McGaughey in East Chicago, Ind.

She grew up in Highland, Ind., graduating from Highland High School before earning her degree from Indiana University. While at Indiana, she met Joseph Stepich, and they married in 1964. They settled in Flossmoor, Ill., where they raised their children, Suzanne and Greg. After retiring, they moved to Watervliet, becoming a part of the Paw Paw Lake community.

Lois loved being on the water, spending summers on Shafer Lake in Monon, Ind., where her parents had built a home, and then on Paw Paw Lake. She loved nature, music, sunsets, cocktail cruises, and being with her friends and family.

She enjoyed volunteer work, and was a long-time member of Flossmoor Service League, Flossmoor Community Church, PEO Chapter JA Illinois, PEO Chapter DV Michigan, and the South Haven Garden Club. Her favorite role was that of "Nana" to her four granddaughters who she loved "to the moon and back."

She is survived by husband, Joseph; children: Suzanne Stepich Lewand and Gregory Stepich; son-in-law, Tom Lewand; granddaughters: Cayleigh, Paige, Shannon, and Erin Lewand; brother and sister-in-law: Bill and Mary Ann McGaughey; step sister, Linda Davis and step brother John Bruington.

She also leaves behind many beloved cousins, nieces, nephews, wonderful friends, and her devoted beagle, Lacey.

She graced many lives with her kindness and compassion and will be missed by all who she touched.

Lois died Sunday, Oct. 11, 2020, at Henry Ford Health System in Detroit.

There will be a private burial service, with a celebration of life to follow in the summer of 2021.

Memorial contributions may be made to Sarett Nature Center, 2300 Benton Center Road, Benton Harbor, MI 49022, or the Al-Van Humane Society, PO Box 421, South Haven, MI 49090.

Hutchins Funeral Home in Watervliet is assisting Lois' family with arrangements and you are invited to leave a message of comfort for her family at hutchinsfuneral.com.

Fred Blaney

Feb. 9, 1938 – Oct. 9, 2020

Fred Blair Blaney, 82, of Kittanning died on Friday Oct. 9, 2020, in Heritage Meadows Personal Care Home.

He was born on Feb. 9, 1938, to John W. and Janet Kline Blaney in Kittanning, Pa.

Fred graduated from Kittanning High School, Indiana University of PA, and University of Pittsburgh with a master's degree in business.

He was employed as an educator for over 33 years at Lenape VO Tech in the business department as well as a teacher at BC3. He also enjoyed selling sporting equipment at Joe's Army Navy store and managing the Hopi Little League baseball team.

Fred married Gail Berghoff of Mount Lebanon, Pa., on Nov. 25, 1961.

He was a member of First United Methodist Church, PSER, and the Mosquito Creek Sportsmen's Club.

He loved the outdoors, especially hunting and fly fishing with his sons at his camp. Many summers were spent surrounded by his grandchildren at the cottage along the shores of Lake Michigan.

Fred is survived by wife, Gail; son, Scott of Edinboro, Pa.; son, John of Greenville, Pa.; daughter-in-law, Ilsa of Centreville, Va.; and nine grandchildren: Steven, Brooke, Nicholas, Nathan, Meredith, Chloe, David, Michael, and Ella. Also surviving are great-grandson, Connor Jackson Blaney of Colorado, and sister, Maty Lee Schaub of Kittanning.

In addition to his parents, Fred was preceded in death by his son, Guy, on Nov. 9, 1997, and his step mother, Eleanor Blaney.

There will be a memorial service at 11 a.m. Friday, Oct. 16, at the First United Methodist Church in Kittanning with the Rev. Deb Kociban officiating.

Masks will be required.

In lieu of flowers memorial contributions may be given to the First United Methodist Church, the Orphans of the Storm, or Heritage Meadows Personal Care Home.

The family would like to sincerely thank the owners, Tim and Erin Graham and their entire staff for the compassionate care in taking care of our Fred at the Heritage Meadows Personal Care Home.

Arrangements have been entrusted to the Snyder-Crissman Funeral Home in Kittanning.

For more information or to send online condolences please visit www.snydercrissman.com.

Gladys Stringer

May 9, 1923 – Oct. 10, 2020

Gladys Pearl "Missy" Stringer, 97, of Stevensville passed away Oct. 10, 2020, at home, surrounded by her family.

Missy was born May 9, 1923, in Goshen, Ind. She was the oldest of five children born to Perl and Gladys Covert.

On Jan. 18, 1947, she married Robert Edward Stringer in Michigan City, Ind. He preceded her in death April 27, 2016. She was also preceded by her parents; her sisters: Virginia Covert and Joan Inglish; and brother, John Covert.

She is survived by her children: Linda Lockwitz, Robert B. Stringer, Kurtis E. Stringer and Matthew Stringer; six grandchildren; four step-grandchildren; great-grandchildren; nieces; nephews; and her sister, Doris Helm.

Missy loved her flower gardens, sewing, art projects, as well as church and community service.

In keeping with her wishes, cremation has taken place. Memorials may be made to the Village Adventist Elementary School renovation project, the Michigan City SDA Church, or Caring Circle Hospice.

A memorial service will be at 4 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, at the Village Seventh-day Adventist Church, Berrien Springs. Arrangements were entrusted to Allred Funeral Home, Berrien Springs. Memories and messages for the family may be left online at www.allredfuneralhome.com.

Death notices

Lila Mae Brown, 98, of Buchanan died Oct. 10, 2020. Swem Chapel and Cremation Services, Buchanan, 695-6881.

James Bachteal, 59, of Stevensville died Oct. 12, 2020. Starks & Menchinger Chapel and Cremation Services, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Fred Blaney, 82, of Kittanning, Pa. died Oct. 9, 2020. Snyder-Crissman Funeral Home, Kittanning, Pa., 724-543-2503.

Wayne Hendrix, 66, of Benton Harbor died Oct. 7, 2020. Robbins Brothers Funeral Home, Benton Harbor, 927-3181.

Eleanor E. "Betty" Robbins, 98, of St. Joseph died Oct. 12, 2020 at The Whitcomb Towers. Starks & Menchinger Chapel, St. Joseph, 556-9450.

Erich Schlender, 78 of St. Joseph died Oct. 9, 2020. Hoven Funeral Home, Buchanan, 695-2363.

Lois Stepich of Watervliet died Oct. 11, 2020. Hutchins Funeral Home, Watervliet, 463-3811.

Gladys Stringer, 97, of Stevensville died Oct. 10, 2020. Allred Funeral Home, Berrien Springs, 471-3729.

Susan Williams, 65, of St. Joseph died Oct. 8, 2020. Boyd Chapel of Pike Funeral and Cremation Services, Bridgman, 465-3239.

Bonna Jean Vanderlyn

July 21, 1931 – May 5, 2020

Bonna Jean Vanderlyn was born on July 21, 1931, in Hartford, the daughter of Fred and Vera (Vernon) Modro. Bonna passed away May 5, 2020.

Bonna graduated from Hartford High School as part of the class of 1949. She married Arthur Vanderlyn and together they built, owned and operated the Hartford Harding's Market. Art passed away on Sept. 15, 1970. She was a member of the Hartford United Methodist Church and a stenographer for the State of Michigan. Loving her community, Bonna was a generous donor to many organizations, including the Hartford Fire Department, Hartford Public Schools, Hartford School Foundation, Hartford United Methodist Church, the American Cancer Society and local humane societies, to name a few. Bonna purchased a fire truck for the Hartford Fire Department, endowed a scholarship fund for Hartford graduates and donated $1.3 million to the Hartford Public Library for building the Arthur and Bonna Vanderlyn Community Center.

Bonna is survived by her nephew, Scott (Denise) Smith; two great-nieces, Amanda (Steve) Veldman and Bethany (Justin) Diesbourg; sister-in-law, Donna Anderson; special friend, Erin (Ernie) Goodson, whom she often introduced as her granddaughter; cousin, Jeanne (Richard) VanDeventer; and all the citizens of Hartford.

Bonna loved serving the Hartford community through her ownership of Hartford Harding's, and became a founding member of a group that made it possible for Harding's to survive as a family-owned business of several area Harding's stores, including Garland Smith, Marty Hill, Rich Glidden, Dave Gearhart, the late Tom Harding, and her special friend and advisor, Bryan Hettinghouse.

Bonna appreciated the help of Hartford Store Manager Tim Hildebrand; Harding's management, Curtis Devries and Tony Medlin; and legal advisor, Jim Beck; that helped her in her later years when she couldn't participate in the day-to-day operations of the store.

The family would like to thank the staff at Caretel Inns, Private Duty Home Healthcare and Caring Circle-Hospice for her care.

Due to shelter in place guidelines, private graveside services were held and Bonna was laid to rest next to Art in Maple Hill Cemetery.

A celebration of life will be at 1:30 p.m. Sunday Oct. 18, at the Hartford United Methodist Church, with Pastor Stephanie Norton officiating. To protect everyone a facial covering is being required to be worn during the service.

A dedication of the Art and Bonna Vanderlyn Community Center will follow at 3:30 p.m. Both services will be streamed live on the Hartford United Methodist Church Facebook page. For social distance planning, please RSVP to the Hartford United Methodist Church at 269-621-4103.

In lieu of flowers, memorial donations may be made the Hartford Public Library for the Arthur and Bonna Vanderlyn Community Center. The family has entrusted the Calvin Funeral Home, Hartford, with arrangements. Those wishing to leave memorial condolences for the family may do so at www.calvin-leonardfh.com.

James Bachteal

Aug. 11, 1961 – Oct. 12, 2020

James A. "Jim" Bachteal, 59, of Stevensville passed away surrounded by his loved ones on Monday, Oct. 12, 2020.

A celebration of life gathering will be from 3-5 p.m. Saturday, Oct. 17, at Starks & Menchinger Chapel, 2650 Niles Road, St. Joseph.

Memorial contributions can be made to St. Vincent DePaul Society in South Bend. Those wishing to leave an online condolence may do so at www.starks-menchinger.com.

Jim was born Aug. 11, 1961, to Arthur and Marilyn (Miller) Bachteal, in Benton Harbor.

He graduated from Bridgman High School and continued his education at Grand Valley State University.

For 28 years, Jim worked at Cook Nuclear Plant as a radiation protection technician, retiring in 2018.

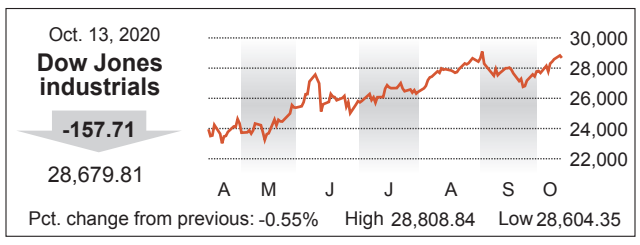
In all aspects of his life, Jim was a provider for his family, friends and loved ones. He was proud to be a Harris softball coach for his daughter and of his many flowers in his greenhouses, each bringing him great joy. Gardening, hunting and trapping were his passions, and reminiscing about sports glory days.

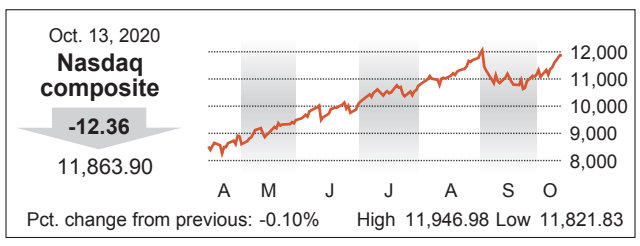
Jim was an avid Ohio State Buckeye and St. Louis Cardinal fan. He was an incredible man, father and brother who was always willing to lend an ear or helping hand. He will be missed by all who were blessed to know him.

Jim is survived by his daughter, Olivia Bachteal of Philadelphia; brothers: Jon (Lora) Bachteal of St. Joseph and Chuck Jaymes of Parkersburg, W.Va.; niece, Hannah; nephews: Charles "Chaz" and Connor; and former wife, Angela Bachteal.

He was preceded in death by his parents: Arthur and Marilyn.

MARKETS





Amer Elec Power AEP
$89.23 **-1.25 -1.4%**
▲ **4-wk.** +11.5% ▼ **YTD** -5.6%

Whirlpool WHR
$201.37 **+.46 +.2%**
▲ **4-wk.** +12.9% ▲ **YTD** +36.5%

LocalStocks

NAME	TICKER	52-WK RANGE LO	HI	◇CLOSE	CHG	%CHG	WK	MO	QTR
AT&T Inc	T	26.08	39.70	27.75	-.38	-1.4	▼	▼	▼
AEP	AEP	65.14	104.97	89.23	-1.25	-1.4	▼	▲	▲
Apple Inc s	AAPL	53.15	137.98	121.10	-3.30	-2.7	▲	▲	▲
AutoZone	AZO	684.91	1274.41	1164.59	+20.53	+1.8	▲	▼	▼
BP PLC	BP	15.51	40.08	16.68	-.56	-3.2	▼	▼	▼
CMS Eng	CMS	46.03	69.12	64.76	-.32	-0.5	▲	▲	▲
CocaCola	KO	36.27	60.07	50.22	-.87	-1.7	▼	▼	▲
Comcast	CMCSA	31.71	47.74	45.89	-.10	-0.2	▲	▼	▼
Deere	DE	106.14	237.61	237.22	+.70	+0.3	▲	▲	▲
Disney	DIS	79.07	153.41	128.96	+3.99	+3.2	▲	▼	▲
DollarTree	DLTR	60.20	119.71	96.63	+1.07	+1.1	▲	▲	▲
ExxonMbl	XOM	30.11	73.12	34.22	-.41	-1.2	▼	▼	▼
FifthThird	FITB	11.10	31.64	23.12	-.40	-1.7	▼	▲	▲
1stSource	SRCE	26.07	53.42	32.39	-1.17	-3.5	▼	▼	▲
FordM	F	3.96	9.58	7.76	+.09	+1.2	▲	▲	▲
GenElec	GE	5.48	13.26	6.72	-.11	-1.6	▼	▲	▲
HomeDp	HD	140.63	292.95	290.36	+3.45	+1.2	▲	▲	▲
HorizBcp	HBNC	7.42	19.48	11.49	-.48	-4.0	▼	▲	▲
HuntBncsh	HBAN	6.82	15.63	9.56	-.39	-3.9	▼	▼	▲
IDEX	IEX	104.56	191.36	186.20	-2.98	-1.6	▼	▬	▲
IBM	IBM	90.56	158.75	125.10	-2.11	-1.7	▼	▲	▲
JPMorgCh	JPM	76.91	141.10	100.78	-1.66	-1.6	▼	▲	▲
JohnJn	JNJ	109.16	157.00	148.36	-3.48	-2.3	▼	▼	▼
Lowes	LOW	60.00	175.00	175.33	+2.60	+1.5	▲	▲	▲
McDnlds	MCD	124.23	228.66	227.35	+1.24	+0.5	▲	▲	▲
Microsoft	MSFT	132.52	232.86	222.86	+1.46	+0.7	▲	▲	▲
MillerHer	MLHR	14.39	49.88	32.01	+.05	+0.2	▲	▲	▲
Perrigo	PRGO	40.01	63.86	45.91	-.46	-1.0	▲	▼	▬
Pfizer	PFE	27.88	40.97	36.90	+.08	+0.2	▲	▼	▲
ProctGam	PG	94.34	145.33	144.21	-.28	-0.2	▲	▲	▲
RepubSvc	RSG	65.37	100.91	93.62	-.88	-0.9	▲	▼	▲
Steelcse	SCS	7.02	23.02	11.85	+.04	+0.3	▲	▲	▲
Stryker	SYK	124.54	227.39	220.00	-5.63	-2.5	▼	▲	▲
TCF Finl	TCF	16.96	47.46	26.71	-.98	-3.5	▼	▲	▲
Target	TGT	90.17	165.49	165.64	+1.07	+0.7	▲	▲	▲
TractSupp	TSCO	63.89	155.56	152.92	+1.98	+1.3	▲	▲	▲
UPS B	UPS	82.00	176.80	175.33	-1.21	-0.7	▲	▲	▲
VerizonCm	VZ	48.84	62.22	59.36	-.19	-0.3	▲	▼	▼
WEC Engy	WEC	68.01	109.53	99.10	-.73	-0.7	▼	▼	▲
WalMart	WMT	102.00	151.33	146.23	+1.98	+1.4	▲	▲	▲
WalgBoots	WBA	33.88	64.50	36.18	-.75	-2.0	▼	▲	▲
Wendys Co	WEN	6.82	24.70	24.08	+.27	+1.1	▼	▲	▲
Whrlpl	WHR	64.00	205.20	201.37	+.46	+0.2	▬	▲	▲
Worthgtn	WOR	19.28	48.50	47.20	-.73	-1.5	▼	▲	▲
XPO Logis	XPO	38.47	100.18	94.72	-1.34	-1.4	▼	▲	▲

Getting it straight

The Herald-Palladium makes every effort to ensure accuracy in its stories.

If you think there is an error, please contact the editor of the page on which it occurred. If you are unsure of whom to contact, call Local News Editor Dale Brewer at 429-3797

www.THEHP.com

DO YOU REMEMBER?

1995 – 25 years ago

A small "for rent" sign in the window is the only indication that the Little Red Shoe House on Lake Street in downtown Bridgman is closing. Saturday is the last day it will be open, according to Manager Jean Payton. A lot of its customers were from out of state. Customers came in the summer to buy shoes and sandals, and later in the year to buy winter boots. The attraction was the store's low prices because it's a Hush Puppy factory outlet store.

1985 – 35 years ago

The Coloma Sesquicentennial Committee on Thursday night outlined its ideas for holding an "old fashioned-type" Christmas in Coloma to members of the Coloma Area Chamber of Commerce. Proposed were sleigh rides and caroling in the downtown business district by area church choirs. Committee members suggested merchants decorate their windows and exterior of their building for a more festive mood. Mrs. Marian Smith, a committee member, said perhaps some organization would be interested in selling hot chocolate. She said visits to children confined to home because of health reasons could also be slated for Santa Claus.

1970 – 50 years ago

The price of dog licenses will go up again next year in Berrien County. The County Board of Commissioners on Monday approved a $4 license fee per dog for 1971. This a jump of $1 from last year's $3 price and $1.50 more than the charge of two years ago. Supervisor Otto Grau, chairman of the county administrators committee and himself a dog owner, said the raise is necessary if the county canine control department is to continue as a self-supporting part of the county government. Only Supervisor Edward Grieger opposed the hike.

TODAY IN HISTORY

By THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

Today is Wednesday, Oct. 14, the 288th day of 2020. There are 78 days left in the year.

Highlight in history:

On Oct. 14, 1964, civil rights leader Martin Luther King Jr. was named winner of the Nobel Peace Prize.

On this date:

In 1890, Dwight D. Eisenhower, 34th president of the United States, was born in Denison, Texas.

In 1933, Nazi Germany announced it was withdrawing from the League of Nations.

In 1944, German Field Marshal Erwin Rommel took his own life rather than face trial and certain execution for allegedly conspiring against Adolf Hitler.

In 1947, U.S. Air Force Capt. Charles E. ("Chuck") Yeager became the first test pilot to break the sound barrier as he flew the experimental Bell XS-1 (later X-1) rocket plane over Muroc Dry Lake in California.

In 1960, the idea of a Peace Corps was suggested by Democratic presidential candidate John F. Kennedy to an audience of students at the University of Michigan in Ann Arbor.

In 1968, the first successful live telecast from a manned U.S. spacecraft was transmitted from Apollo 7.

5-Day Forecast for St. Joseph

Today	Tonight	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday
Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Partly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy	Mostly Cloudy
69°	49°	56° / 41°	52° / 39°	56° / 45°	57° / 40°

Local Outlook

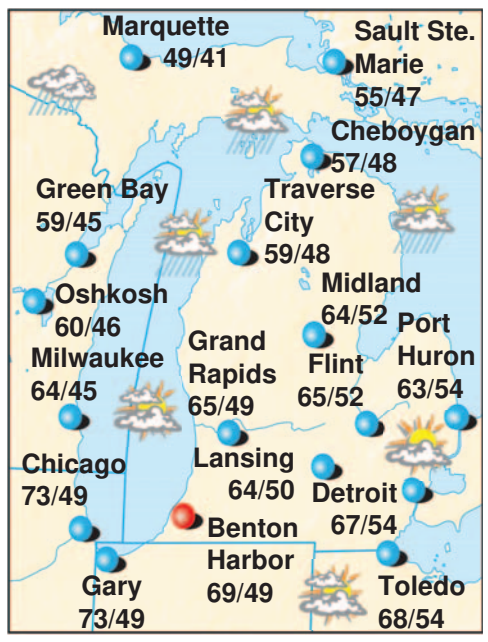
Today we will see mostly cloudy skies with a high temperature of 69°, humidity of 50%. South southeast wind 2 to 17 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies tonight with an overnight low of 49°. Southwest wind 13 to 17 mph.

Sun and Moon

Sunrise ..... 7:57 a.m.
Sunset ..... 7:04 p.m.
Moonrise ..... 4:57 a.m.
Moonset ..... 6:23 p.m.

New	First	Full	Last
10/16	10/23	10/31	11/8

Regional Map



Local Almanac

Benton Harbor Yesterday

Temperature

High	70°
Low	39°
Normal High	64°
Normal Low	43°
Record High	83° in 2008
Record Low	31° in 2002

Precipitation

Yesterday	0.00"
Month to date	0.71"
Normal for month	1.33"
Year to date	28.90"
Normal Year to date	30.08"

Air Quality

Yesterday 32
Main Offender ..... Ozone

The higher the number, the greater the need for people with respiratory problems to reduce outside activity.

0-50 ..... Good
51-100 ..... Moderate
101-150 .... Sensitive
151-200 .. Unhealthy

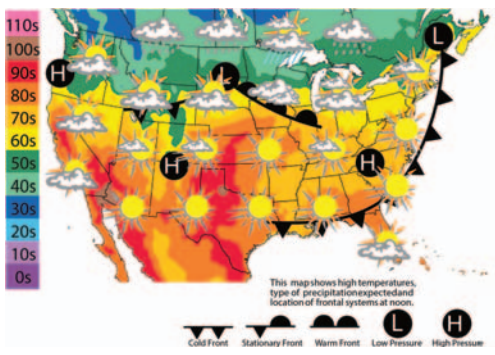
Weather Trivia

Sun spots occur in cycles of how many years, on average?

Answer: Eleven years.

National Weather Map

Forecast map for Oct. 14, 2020



For latest weather updates: **www.UpdatedWx.com/HP**

Lake Michigan

Today, S wind 5 to 10 kt increasing to 11 to 16 kt. Winds could gust as high as 24 kt. Increasing clouds. Waves around 1 ft. Water temperature 64 degrees. Tonight, S wind 15 to 24 kt.

Michigan Forecast

Upper Peninsula

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy with widespread showers, highs in the 40s and 50s. South southwest wind 8 to 13 mph. Expect cloudy skies Thursday with widespread showers and rain, highs in the 40s and 50s. West wind 15 to 19 mph.

Lower Peninsula

Today, skies will be mostly cloudy with highs in the 60s. South southeast wind 2 to 17 mph. Expect mostly cloudy skies Thursday with scattered showers, highs in the 50s and 60s. West wind 14 to 17 mph.

EATERY

From page A1

the Dainty Maid Co building at 231 S. Michigan Ave., in South Bend next month.

Patrons can dine at the Bridgman location until they close for the last time at 2 p.m. on Oct. 25.

Mike Stone, the executive chef of the restaurant, earned his culinary arts degree from the International Culinary School at the Art Institute in Denver. He said the decision was not made lightly.

"Southwest Michigan is where we started," he said. "Jen and I grew up in the area, and we are thankful for our wonderful staff and strong customer base – both contributed to our growth. While we are moving to another location, South Bend is less than 30 miles away, and we are looking forward to seeing and continuing to serve familiar faces in our new space as well."

Monogram Centre, the company that owns the restaurant's building, is in the process of filling the lease.

Marty Mason, owner of Monogram Centre, said he is working with several Realtors and local entrepreneurs to take the space as soon as possible. He said he is interested in another breakfast or lunch style of restaurant.

"Although we are obviously disappointed that the current tenant is leaving, we completely understand," Mason said Tuesday. "We feel confident, given our great location, that we should be able to secure a new tenant by early next year."

Contact: twittkowski@TheHP.com, 932-0358, Twitter: @TonyWittkowski

Retiree checks to rise 1.3 percent in 2021

WASHINGTON (AP) — Social Security recipients will get a modest 1.3 percent cost-of living-increase in 2021, but that might be small comfort amid worries about the coronavirus and its consequences for older people.

The increase amounts to $20 a month for the average retired worker, according to estimates released Tuesday by the Social Security Administration. That's a little less than this year's 1.6 percent cost-of-living adjustment, or COLA.

The COLA affects the personal finances of about 1 in 5 Americans, including Social Security recipients, disabled veterans and federal retirees, some 70 million people in all.

The fallout from the virus has reduced tax collections for Social Security and Medicare, likely worsening their long-term financial condition. But there's been no real discussion of either program in the election contest between President Donald Trump and Democrat Joe Biden.

"It's very difficult to talk about anything policy-wise," said Mary Johnson, an analyst with the nonpartisan Senior Citizens League. "We are looking at a period where there are growing inadequacies in Social Security benefits, particularly for people with lower-to-middle benefits."

With the just-announced COLA, the estimated average Social Security payment for a retired worker will be $1,543 a month next year. A typical couple's benefits would increase $33 to $2,596 per month.

BHAS

From page A1

families back ... and we're going to give you a great education."

After the meeting, he said the number of students attending district schools is around 1,800. That is up from the student count of 1,766 last school year.

Whirlpool grant

Townsel also announced that the Benton Harbor Education Foundation recently received $200,000 from the Whirlpool Charity Golf event.

He said that money will be used to hire professional student advocates to make home visits to 400 students to make sure that their needs are being met.

School board trustees also accepted a little more than $4 million in emergency money from the federal government that was allocated to school districts through the CARES Act.

Contact: lwrege@TheHP.com, 932-0361, Twitter: @HPWrege

hp SPORTS

Sox going in new direction after firing Renteria for … what exactly?

Rick Renteria's departure as Chicago White Sox manager is far more mystifying than his exit as Cubs manager six years ago this month.

Both teams were turning the corner in their rebuilds, but the Cubs saw an opportunity to hire Joe Maddon and quickly pounced, making a cold, calculated decision that devastated Renteria but ultimately worked out for the organization, which ended its championship drought two years later.

Paul Sullivan

When the Sox got rid of Renteria Monday only two weeks after their playoff exit, it was announced as a "mutual" decision.

But no sane person would agree on his own to leave a team with as much upside as the Sox, especially after going through four grueling years of a rebuild to get to this spot. Renteria loved his team, and the likelihood of him agreeing his time was up is remote.

White Sox general manager Rick Hahn gave no explanation for the decision, although said it had nothing to do with the alleged mismanagement in their Game 3 loss to the Oakland A's in the wild-card series or with the season-ending slump that dropped the Sox from first place in the American League Central and the top seed in the AL to third place and a No. 7 seed.

"This is based upon where we are as an organization and what we need to do to take that next step in putting us in the best position to succeed," Hahn said.

So Renteria agreed the Sox were better off taking the next step with someone else in charge?

That doesn't make any sense.

"It's somewhat based on the relationship we have," Hahn replied. "That we're able to have honest conversations about where we're at, what we need to do to get better, as well as the time horizon for doing that, and the length of time that we foresee us being together ... I don't want to get too deep into personal conversations about fit and longevity and the length of this potential window.

"Just to let you know, Ricky and I have talked for years about how this potentially ends. It was always with the hope and the goal of us winning a championship together. Obviously that didn't happen. This isn't the ideal ending from that standpoint, but it is an ending we talked about previously, not just over the last couple of days or couple of weeks."

Asked if he considered changing managers before the 2020 season, Hahn said "you're always ready for the potential that there is a change," adding there was probably a list of GM replacements for him.

"It wasn't one game, it wasn't one week," he repeated. "This is a conversation that's been going on

See **SULLIVAN**, page B2

Rick Osentoski / AP

Detroit quarterback Matthew Stafford goes to throw against the New Orleans Saints during an Oct. 4 game.

Fix the feet

Detroit coaches think Stafford's footwork needs some attention

By DAVE BIRKETT
Detroit Free Press (TNS)

Matthew Stafford's back is OK, but his feet need some fixing.

Detroit Lions offensive coordinator Darrell Bevell and quarterbacks coach Sean Ryan said Monday they do not believe the back injuries that Stafford suffered the last two seasons have contributed to his slow start this fall.

Rather, the Lions assistants said Stafford has been imprecise with his footwork.

"I think there's a lot of things that really go into (how he's played this year)," Bevell said. "But I think when you simplify it as easy you can for the quarterback, I had a small conversation with him about it, I think it usually goes back to your feet, because your feet really tell you the story. Your feet is what gets you through your progressions, gets you through the play, and I think that we can continue (to get better there)."

Stafford was playing arguably the best football of his career last season when he fractured bones in his back late in a Week 9 loss to the Oakland Raiders and missed the final eight games of the season.

He finished with 2,499 yards passing, 19 touchdowns and had career highs in passer rating (106) and yards per attempt (9.1).

In the Lions' 1-3 start this year, Stafford has thrown for 1,017 yards with eight touchdowns and three interceptions. His modest 93.8 passer rating is only slighter better than rookie Joe Burrow, and he's completing just 60.6 percent of his passes, his lowest rate since 2014.

"I haven't seen anything like concern on his end about injuries," Ryan said. "He's, to me, has felt well, hasn't given you any indication of anything else. I think footwork is always, it's always big for quarterbacks, you're always working on it. If you think you're ever done with that you're probably headed for a problem. It's got to be constantly talked about. Talked about within progressions, talked about redirecting your eyes with your feet. It all ties together. It never goes away. It's just something we always harp on, even when it's perfect we're going to harp on it and that's what we're doing now."

Poor footwork contributed to Stafford missing several throws in the Lions' Week 4 loss to the New Orleans Saints and has been an issue on at least two of his interceptions this season.

Against the Saints, Stafford underthrew T.J. Hockenson in the front corner of the end zone while rolling to his right and throwing off his back foot after he left the pocket prematurely.

The game was tied at 14 at the time, and New Orleans went on to score the next 21 points.

In Week 1, Stafford forced an interception into double coverage that set up the Chicago Bears' winning touchdown drive. In Week 2, he did not square his feet before throwing an interception out of his own end zone that was returned for a touchdown. He also threw an interception in Week 4, when he tried to force a pass into

See **STAFFORD**, page B2

Watervliet looks to take next step

Boys soccer districts begin today, continue next week

By BEN SANDERS
HP Sports Editor

Watervliet's boys soccer program has taken a big step forward in its second season. Now the Panthers are hoping to compete for a district title.

Watervliet (10-2) is at Buchanan (3-6) today in the opening round of the Division 3 district hosted by Brandywine. A victory could give the Panthers a home semifinal against South Haven (11-2-1), which earned the top seed using the Michigan Power Rankings formula. Two teams in each district are seeded and placed on opposite side of the bracket. The Rams open against Constantine (0-11-1).

Dowagiac (9-2-1) earned the second seed, and hosts Berrien Springs (1-7-2) in the first round. Coloma (5-7) is at Brandywine (3-5-2) in the other matchup in that half of the bracket.

Watervliet was 7-7-1 in its inaugural campaign, and lost to South Haven 1-0 in last year's district tournament. Panthers coach Doug Bornas said the team wants to avenge that loss, but knows they first need to get past Buchanan.

"We feel we're ready," Bornas said. "The kids are motivated to make that happen."

Junior Nathan Isbrecht has led the Panthers with 18 goals and 13 assists. Junior Brennan Bornas and sophomore Brady Bornas have also put up strong numbers in attack. Defensively, junior sweeper Andrew Chisek and senior defensive midfielder Erick Perez Cruz lead the way, and sophomore goalkeeper Zach Hastings has 62 saves.

"The improvement this year, probably the biggest thing is we only lost two seniors," coach Bornas said. "We have a large group of sophomores and juniors. They've just done the next progression and started to form together as a team."

Division 2

Hosted by Vicksburg

St. Joseph (10-3-1) is the top seed and favorite in the district, and will host Sturgis (3-7-2) at 6 p.m. today in the opening round. If victorious, the Bears will play either Vicksburg (2-10-1) or Niles (6-5-2).

Lakeshore (4-7-2) could potentially play rival St. Joseph in the final. The Lancers open at Three Rivers (5-8-2) today at 6 p.m. Second-seeded Paw Paw (3-7-1) is at Vicksburg (4-6-2) in the first round.

Division 4

Hosted by Michigan Lutheran

Hartford (12-2) is a clear favorite. The Indians are the top seed, and open the four-team district at New Buffalo (2-2-5) on Tuesday.

Division 4
Hosted by Michigan Lutheran
Tuesday, Oct. 20
Hartford at New Buffalo, 4
Bridgman at Michigan Lutheran, 4
Saturday, Oct. 24
Championship, noon

Division 3
Hosted by Brandywine
Wednesday, Oct. 14
Watervliet at Buchanan, 5
Constantine at South Haven, 5:30
Berrien Springs at Dowagiac, 5
Coloma at Brandywine, 5
Semifinals – Time/Date TBD
Watervliet-Buchanan winner vs. Constantine-South Haven winner
Berrien Springs-Dowagiac winner vs. Coloma-Brandywine winner
Thursday, Oct. 22
Championship, 5

Division 2
Hosted by Vicksburg
Wednesday, Oct. 14
Sturgis at St. Joseph, 6
Lakeshore at Three Rivers, 6
Thursday, Oct. 15
Paw Paw at Edwardsburg, 5
Friday, Oct. 16
Niles at Vicksburg, 6
Monday, Oct. 19
Niles-Vicksburg winner vs. Sturgis-St. Joseph winner, 5:30
Paw Paw-Edwardsburg winner vs. Lakeshore-Three Rivers winner, 7:15
Thursday, Oct. 22
Championship, 6

Sleek, determined Ohio St. QB driven by quest for national title

By MITCH STACY
Associated Press

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Not knowing when or if Ohio State was going to play in 2020, Justin Fields never stopped working toward another college football season. He stayed in Columbus, embraced a vegan diet and filled his days with physical conditioning and regular sessions of video study and field work under the tutelage of head coach Ryan Day.

As the Buckeyes prepare for their Oct. 24 opener against Nebraska, the 21-year-old quarterback's determination is palpable, even in his Zoom interviews with reporters.

"I know the time's ticking, so I'm just more anxious and anxious every day until game day comes," Fields said Tuesday. "I know I've said it 10 times, but y'all don't know how excited I am to play."

Fields transferred from Georgia last year, lured by Day to be the successor to star Dwayne Haskins Jr. He blossomed as expected, leading Ohio State to a national semifinal game and emerging as a Heisman Trophy finalist while battling through a late-season knee injury that made it difficult to even walk at times.

He finished third in the Heisman derby, which was a landslide for former Buckeyes quarterback Joe Burrow, who won the national title at LSU and now starts for the Cincinnati Bengals.

Fields likely will be playing in the NFL next fall whether or not he plays another down of college football. He could have opted out of this pandemic-shortened season but wanted one more shot at the Heisman and a national title with a team he's convinced can get there.

Fields patiently waited

See **QB**, page B2

Jay LaPrete / AP

Ohio State quarterback Justin Fields throws a pass during practice Oct. 3. Fields returns for a second season as Ohio State starter. Coaches and teammates say Fields is in better shape because of diet and workout regimen, and is a more confident and vocal leader.

SULLIVAN

From page B1

for a while."

A source with knowledge of the decision said Renteria "chose" the "mutual agreement" terminology. Perhaps he wanted to put his best face forward on another unexpected career change, one that no doubt pleased a majority of Sox fans.

It also wasn't an ideal ending for Don Cooper, whom I always referred to as "pitching coach for life" due to his innate ability to survive managerial changes without receiving the slightest hint of blame for his role.

I was wrong. He gone.

Again, it was a "mutual" decision according to Hahn, so Cooper apparently believed it was time for him to go. After 20 years, we finally agreed on something.

But the big news Monday was that one of the plum managerial openings in baseball was now available to anyone, well, except for Ozzie Guillen.

Hahn said Guillen was informed by Chairman Jerry Reinsdorf before Renteria's firing was announced that he wouldn't be a candidate, apparently hoping to avoid a Twitter stampede demanding the Sox bring their former manager back.

Hahn lauded Guillen, but wouldn't reveal why he wouldn't be a candidate, even though he fits the mold of a championship-winning manager.

Guillen and former Sox slugger Frank Thomas, both analysts for NBC Sports Chicago, didn't hold back while questioning Renteria's decision-making on the Sox's pre- and post-game shows. Obviously someone was listening to them, whether it was Hahn, executive vice president Ken Williams or Reinsdorf himself.

Hahn said he'd keep an open mind about Renteria's replacement, but would prefer an experienced manager from a recent championship team – which suggests recently fired A.J. Hinch and Alex Cora, two of the culprits of the Houston Astros' sign-stealing scandal, will be candidates 1 and 1A. Both are regarded as premier in-game managers, though both also carry the taint of the cheating scandal.

Asked about Cora and Hinch, Hahn wouldn't discuss his list, other than to say Guillen wasn't on it.

The news of Renteria's departure was stunning. Not because he deserved to stick around, which was debatable, but because Hahn had done nothing but praise his manager in the face of fan and media criticism over the last four years. After the Sox clinched a playoff spot for the first time since 2008, Hahn said there was no one he was happier for than Renteria.

So what happened?

Hahn said that statement is still true, though he wouldn't divulge a reason for the change in philosophy.

Renteria served one year as bench coach under Robin Ventura before signing a three-year deal to guide the Sox rebuild before the 2017 season. After one season, Hahn decided to extend the deal until at least after the 2020 season, but didn't announce it right away.

The extension was made public that following November when I asked Hahn at the general managers meetings in Carlsbad, Calif., if he'd discuss extending Renteria past his lame duck season.

"There's no need to talk at this time," Hahn replied. "He signed an extension a while back."

Why didn't Hahn tell us months earlier? He said no one asked.

Two years later, Renteria is gone and the Sox are preparing for a 2021 season that will carry great expectations whether fans are allowed inside ballparks or not. The next manager will not only be expected to take the Sox back to the playoffs, but go farther than they did in 2020.

Strangely, Renteria could wind up a finalist for AL Manager of the Year after leading the Sox to the postseason. He was widely castigated on Twitter and the Internet for his decision-making throughout the pandemic-shortened season, especially after inserting rehabbed starter Carlos Rodon in a tough relief role during a loss to the Cleveland Indians during the team's meltdown the final week. He also was criticized for his pitching moves in the Game 3 playoff loss to the A's that ended the season.

When Cubs president Theo Epstein fired Renteria in 2014, he said there was "no doubt (he'll) make an excellent major league manager when given his next chance." On Monday, Hahn said "if Ricky decides in the future that he wants to manage again or manage elsewhere, which again will be a personal decision of Ricky's, there is no doubt in my mind he can find the right spot and fit and lead a team to a championship."

There is never a doubt with Renteria ... until there is.

Paul Sullivan is a columnist for the Chicago Tribune.

HIGH SCHOOL SCOREBOARD

CROSS COUNTRY

BCS RED DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP

Boys

Team scores – 1. Berrien Springs 18, 2. Bridgman 52, 3. South Haven 86, 4. Brandywine 97, 5. Comstock 127, 6. Niles 129. No team score: Buchanan.

Top 15 – 1. Ashton Sheline (BSp) 16:59.3, 2. James Burke (BSp) 17:12.1, 3. Luke Blesy (Brid) 17:36.8, 4. Luke Morrison (BSp) 17:54.7, 5. Nathaniel Bittner 18:08.8, 6. Sam Markle (BSp) 18:15.3, 7. John Sanderson (Brid) 18:21, 8. Carson Rooker (SH) 18:28.1, 9. Walker Barz (Buc) 18:44.1, 10. AJ Hackett (Brid) 19:18.2, 11. Nino Morumbwa (BSp) 19:29.6, 12. Jayce Warren (Brid) 19:36.9, 13. Aiden Kruger (N) 19:48.3, 14. Ben Meyer (SH) 20:04.8, 15. Micah Colby (Bry) 20:13.6.

Girls

Team scores – 1. Bridgman 34, 2. Berrien Springs 60, 3. Buchanan 74, 4. Niles 77, 5. Brandywine 106. No team score: Comstock, South Haven.

Top 15 – 1. Karsyn Stewart (Brid) 20:42.0, 2. Arie Hackett (Brid) 21:08.3, 3. Lydia Kruis (C) 21:30.7, 4. Kierstyn Thompson 21:45.1, 5. Summer Fast 21:58.7, 6. Cassandra Shortman 22:05.6, 7. Jezra Reyes (BSp) 22:09.0, 8. Allison Lauri (Bry) 22:15.9, 9. McKenzie Geralds (BSp) 22:18.0, 10. Summer Corke (SH) 22:27.7, 11. Eleanor Young (Buc) 22:29.9, 12. Anna Constable (BSp) 22:31.3, 13. Morgan Horvath (Bry) 22:32.8, 14. Graci Tate (Brid) 22:35.2, 15. Victoria Wurzel (BSp) 23:03.4.

BCS WHITE DIVISION CHAMPIONSHIP

Boys

Team scores – 1. LM Catholic 33, 2. Lawrence 44, 3. River Valley 68, 4. Eau Claire 97. No team score: New Buffalo, Grace Christian.

Top 15 – Isaiah Beiter (Lwr) 18:05, 2. Joel Chandler (GC) 18:06, 3. Brody Amthor (Lwr) 18:23, 4. Michael Golden (Cath) 18:50, 5. Charlie DeGraves (Lwr) 19:00, 6. Matthew Lage (Cath) 19:02, 7. Edward Lopez (EC) 19:20, 8. Owen McLoughlin (Cath) 19:22, 9. Emerson Barnes (NB) 19:36, 10. Bradley Mills (Cath) 19:39, 11. Adam Blankenship (EC) 19:40, 12. Lucas Wielens (Cath) 19:45, 13. Gavyn Rogers (RV) 20:49, 14. Joshua Seifert (RV) 20:59, 15. Isaac Reeves (GC) 21:00.

GIRLS GOLF

ST. JOSEPH 196, KAL. HACKETT 209

at Point O'Woods

St. Joseph – Maya Hunter 39, Madison Jackson 51, Izzy Ugalde 53, Morgan Guzzo 53, Maddy Cleveland 53, Gracie Thomas 54.

Kal. Hackett – Meg Christian 50, Lauren Rex 51, Ellie Christian 53, KJ Walters 55.

VOLLEYBALL

COLOMA D. FENNVILLE
25-13, 25-23, 25-12

Coloma — Maddie Mcquillan 1 kill, 7 assists, 5 aces, 3 digs; Maurissa LaGrow 3 digs; Gracie Whitaker 3 kills, 5 aces, 3 digs; Taryn Blazier 12 kills, 2 aces, 2 digs, 1 block; Mia Cole 2 kills, 2 aces, 12 digs; Kiely Moore 1 kill, 1 dig, 1 block; Clara Kimmerly 1 kill, 2 blocks; Brielle Hicks 8 assists, 1 ace, 6 digs, 1 block; Olivia Palgen 3 digs; Maddie Hicks 3 kills, 1 ace, 5 digs.

Monday's results

COUNTRYSIDE D. HOWARDSVILLE CHRISTIAN 25-15, 15-25, 25-21, 25-22

Countryside — Carolyn Deneau 3 kills, 1 dig, 1 ace; Tasheuna Mays 5 digs, 33 assists, 1 ace; Lily Nestich 1 kill, 2 blocks; Jackie Vandewarker 7 kills, 1 block, 2 digs, 1 ace; Matti Hart 2 kills, 7 digs, 20 assists; Nakiya Hines 5 digs; Ash'Reyana Campbell 2 digs.

NFL

Monday's Games

New Orleans 30, L.A. Chargers 27, OT

Tuesday's Games

Tennessee 42, Buffalo 16

Sunday, Oct. 18

Denver at New England, 1 p.m.
Houston at Tennessee, 1 p.m.
Washington at N.Y. Giants, 1 p.m.
Cincinnati at Indianapolis, 1 p.m.
Atlanta at Minnesota, 1 p.m.
Chicago at Carolina, 1 p.m.
Detroit at Jacksonville, 1 p.m.
Cleveland at Pittsburgh, 1 p.m.
Baltimore at Philadelphia, 1 p.m.
N.Y. Jets at Miami, 4:05 p.m.
Green Bay at Tampa Bay, 4:25 p.m.
L.A. Rams at San Francisco, 8:20 p.m.
Open: Las Vegas, L.A. Chargers, New Orleans, Seattle

Monday, Oct. 19

Kansas City at Buffalo, 5 p.m.
Arizona at Dallas, 8:15 p.m.

MLB

LEAGUE CHAMPIONSHIP SERIES
(Best-of-7)
American League
Tampa Bay 2, Houston 0
At San Diego

Sunday. Oct. 11: Tampa Bay 2, Houston 1
Monday, Oct. 12: Tampa Bay 4, Houston 2
Tuesday, Oct. 13: Tampa Bay (Yarbrough 1-4) vs. Houston (Urquidy 1-1)
Wednesday, Oct. 14: Tampa Bay (Glasnow 5-1) vs. Houston (Greinke 3-3), 8:40 p.m.
x-Thursday, Oct. 15: Tampa Bay vs. Houston
x-Friday, Oct. 16: Houston vs. Tampa Bay
x-Saturday, Oct. 17: Houston vs. Tampa Bay

National League
Atlanta 2, Los Angeles 0
At Arlington, Texas

Monday, Oct. 12: Atlanta 5, Los Angeles Dodgers 1
Tuesday, Oct. 13: Atlanta 8, Los Angeles Dodgers 7
Wednesday, Oct. 14: Los Angeles Dodgers (Urias 3-0) vs. Atlanta (Wright 2-4), 6:05 p.m. (FS1)
Thursday, Oct. 15: Los Angeles Dodgers (Kershaw 6-2) vs. Atlanta, 8:08 p.m. (Fox and FS1)
x-Friday, Oct. 16: Los Angeles Dodgers (May 3-1) vs. Atlanta, 9:08 p.m. (FS1)
x-Saturday, Oct. 17: Atlanta vs. Los Angeles Dodgers (Buehler 1-0), 4:38 p.m. (FS1)
x-Sunday, Oct. 18: Atlanta vs. Los Angeles Dodgers, 8:15 p.m. (Fox and FS1)

QB

From page B1

out the Big Ten as the conference shelved the season for about five weeks due to coronavirus concerns before reversing course. Instead of moving on, he spearheaded an online petition that was signed by hundreds of thousands of people urging the Big Ten to start back up.

Fields emerged from the pandemic break leaner and stronger. Coaches and teammates say he's also a more confident and demonstrative leader.

"I think when you have a year under your belt, you realize the consequence of every game, every snap, the preparation that comes into every play," Day said. "He asks the right questions going into practice if he's not sure. He makes sure he has it right. And he's also holding people accountable."

Day added: "If (the play) doesn't work it's usually on the quarterback, the offensive coordinator and the head coach. He understands that now. So if things aren't exactly the way he sees it, he gets with (us). His leadership has been excellent."

Quarterbacks coach Corey Dennis puts it this way: "He truly doesn't want to leave a stone unturned."

Fields put up gaudy numbers last season (3,273 yards, 41 touchdowns, three interceptions) in his first year working in Day's system, for which the creative, mobile quarterback is an ideal fit. But entering Year 2 there is a deeper understanding of the scheme and the goals.

STAFFORD

From page B1

double coverage, that was overturned by penalty.

Stafford's turnovers against both the Saints and Packers were reminiscent of off-balance throws he often completed early in his career.

Still, Bevell insisted, "I do not have any" concerns about Stafford's back, and that footwork is "the main thing that we're focusing on right now."

"That hasn't been brought up even once this year," Bevell said of Stafford's health.

What could be contributing factors are injuries the Lions have dealt with on offense – No. 1 receiver Kenny Golladay missed the first two games of the season with a strained hamstring; an inconsistent running game; the fact that Stafford is on pace to take 48 sacks this season, which would be a career-high; and the lack of an offseason the Lions had due to the coronavirus pandemic.

With no preseason games, Stafford went 10 months between game action, from the time he hurt back last year until the start of the regular season last month.

"I thought we were really at a good place last year and then keep in mind, he had all that time off and not running plays with guys in our offense," Bevell said. "So just continuing to work on those little details, making sure that our feet are helping us get through progressions, helping us make the decisions and that we bring our feet with us through all our throws."

PRIME TIME TV

WEDNESDAY EVENING OCT. 14

	7:30	8 PM	8:30	9 PM	9:30	10 PM	10:30
ABC 7 13 41 57	Wheel of Fortune	📽 ★★★ **Coco** ('17, Children's) Voices of Anthony Gonzalez, Gael García Bernal.				:02 **The Con** "The Love Con" CC	
CBS 2 3 22	Ent. Tonight	**Big Brother** (N) CC		**The Amazing Race** "One Million Miles"		**S.W.A.T.** "Hotel L.A." CC	
NBC 5 8 16	Ac. Hollywood	**2020 Billboard Music Awards** Billboard honors the year's top artists. (N) (L) CC					
FOX 17 22 28 32	Modern Family	**The Masked Singer** (N) CC (DVS)		:01 **I Can See Your Voice** (N)		**Fox 17 News at 10:00PM** (N) CC	
PBS 34	Outdoor Elements	**Nature** Cats in the Americas.		**NOVA** "Nature's Fear Factor" (N)		**The Age of Nature** "Awakening" CC	
CW 25	Big Bang Theory	**Devils** "Episode 2" (N)		**Coroner** "Borders" (N)		**News**	**Seinfeld** CC
MNT 50	Family Feud	**Dateline** A detective tries to find a link. (N)		**Dateline** "Suspicion in Silver City" CC		**Dateline** An Ohio mother goes missing.	
WCIU 26	Mike & Molly	**Devils** "Episode 2" (N)		**Coroner** "Borders" (N)		**King of Queens**	**King of Queens**
WHME 46	:00 **Heartland**	**Heartland** Lou saves the day.		**Highway to Heaven** "The Gift of Life"		**Nightly News**	
WGN 9	News	**MLS Soccer** Chicago Fire FC at Minnesota United FC. (N) (L) CC				**WGN News at Nine** (N) (L) CC	
A&E	Lincoln Lawyer	📽 ★★★★ **The Shawshank Redemption** ('94) Tim Robbins. An innocent man goes to a Maine penitentiary for life in 1947. CC					
AMC	★ **Ghost Ship** ('02)	📽 ★★ **Trick 'r Treat** ('07, Horror) Anna Paquin, Brian Cox, Dylan Baker. CC				📽 ★★ **Pumpkinhead** ('88) CC	
Animal	North-	**North Woods Law: Uncuffed** (N)				**North Wo. Law**	
BET	Tyler P	Payne	As. Living	**Tyler Perry's Sistas**		**Tyler Perry's Sistas**	
Big Ten	:00 **Women's College Volleyball**			**Women's College Volleyball** CC			
Bravo	House-wives/OC	**Housewives/OC**		**Housewives/OC**		**Watch What**	**House-wives/OC**
Cartoon	Victor	**Gumball**	**Gumball**	**Burgers**	**Burgers**	**American**	**American**
Cinemax	**Alita: Battle Angel**	📽 ★★★ **Crimson Peak** ('15, Horror) Mia Wasikowska, Jessica Chastain. CC				📽 ★★ **The Last Exorcism** ('10) CC	
CMT	Last Man	**Mom**	**Mom**	**Mom**	**Mom**	**Mom**	**Mom**
CNBC	S. Smith	**Shark Tank** CC		**Shark Tank**		**Shark Tank**	
CNN	OutFront	**Anderson Cooper**		**Cuomo Prime Time**		**CNN Tonight**	
Comedy	:45 **South Park**		**South Pk**	**South Pk**	**South Pk**	**South Pk**	**South Pk**
Discovery	**Expedition Un.**	**Expedition Unknown** "India's Atlantis"		**Dodgeball Thunderdome** CC		9:58 **Expedition X** CC	
Disney	Jessie	**Big City**	**Big City**	**Big City**	**Big City**	**Owl Hse.**	**Amphibia**
DIY	Restored	**Restored** CC		**Restored** (N) CC		**Barnwood Builders**	
E!	Chrisley	**Chrisley**	**Chrisley**	**Chrisley**	**Chrisley**	**Chrisley**	**Chrisley**
ESPN	**College Football** Appalachian State at Georgia Southern. (N) (L)						**SportsC.**
ESPN2	NFL Live	**The Undefeated**		**Boxing**		**Boxing**	
ESPNC	Football	**College Football**				**Classic-Boxing**	
Food	Grocery	**Guy's Games**		**Guy's Games**		**Beat Flay**	**Beat Flay**
Fox News	The Story	**Tucker Carlson**		**Hannity** (N) CC		**The Ingraham Angle**	
Fox Sports	Basket	**Jamie Daniels Foundation**			**Jamie Daniels Foundation**		
Freefrm	**The Simpsons**	**The Simpsons**	**The Simpsons**	📽 ★★★ **Beetlejuice** ('88, Comedy) Michael Keaton, Alec Baldwin. CC			
FX	**Kingsman-Gold**	📽 ★★ **The Equalizer 2** ('18, Action) Denzel Washington, Pedro Pascal, Ashton Sanders. CC					**Equalizer**
Golf	Central	**Golf** CJ Cup at Shadow Creek - The Charity				**Golf** CJ Cup at	
Hallmark	**Just My Type** ('20)	📽 **Harvest Love** ('17, Romance) Jen Lilley, Ryan Paevey, Brenden Sunderland. CC				**Golden Girls**	**Golden Girls**
HBO	**Lovecraft Country**	**Lovecraft Country** "Jig-A-Bobo" CC		**Lovecraft Country** "Rewind 1921"		📽 ★ **Cats** ('19) Taylor Swift. CC	
History	Cnt. Cars	**Counting Cars**		**Counting Cars** (N)		:03 **Counting Cars**	
HGTV	Brother	**Brother vs. Brother**		**Brother vs. Brother**		**Hunters**	**Hunt Intl**
Learning	Addiction	**Addiction**	**Addiction**	**Addiction**	**Addiction**	**Addiction**	**Addiction**
Lifetime	**Married-Sight**	**Married at First Sight** "Stranger Spouse" The couples head out for a getaway. (N)				:03 **Married at First Sight** (N) CC	
MSNBC	ReidOut	**All In With**		**Rachel Maddow**		**The Last Word**	
MTV	Catfish	**Catfish: The TV**		**Catfish: The TV**		**Ridic.**	**Ridic.**
NBCSCH	Victory	**Motorcycle Racing** Pala National. (Taped)				**Lucas Oil Mtr**	
NFL	NFL Total	**NFL Football** Teams TBA. CC					
Nick	Loud	**Are You Afraid**		**Friends**	**Friends**	**Friends**	**Friends**
NGEO	Locked	**Locked Up Abroad**		**Locked Up Abroad**		**Locked Up Abroad:**	
Oxygen	**Dateline: Secrets**	**Snapped** "Notorious: Ted Bundy" Glamorized as a well-educated killer. CC				**Ted Bundy: In Defense of** CC	
Parmt	:00 📽 ★★★ **Jurassic Park** ('93) CC				**The Lost World: Jurassic Park**		
Showtime	6:25 📽 **Swallow**	📽 ★★★★ **The Silence of the Lambs** ('91) Jodie Foster, Anthony Hopkins. CC				📽 ★★ **Hannibal** ('01) (P). CC	
Starz	**Hotel Trans**	:11 📽 ★ **Miss Bala** ('19, Action) Gina Rodriguez, Ismael Cruz Córdova. CC				**Vida** "Episode 22" CC	
STZENC	:25 📽 ★★★ **Premium Rush** ('12) Joseph Gordon-Levitt. CC			📽 ★★ **White Chicks** ('04, Comedy) Shawn Wayans, Marlon Wayans. CC			
SyFy	:00 📽 ★★★ **Zombieland** ('09) Woody Harrelson. CC			📽 **Jeepers Creepers 3** ('17, Horror) Jonathan Breck, Stan Shaw, Gina Philips.			
TBS	**Pregame**	**MLB Baseball** ALCS, Game 4: Teams TBA. Game 4 of the best-of-seven series. (N) (L) CC					
TCM	★★ **The Devil Doll**	📽 ★★★ **Abe Lincoln in Illinois** ('40, Biography) Raymond Massey. CC (DVS)				📽 ★★★ **Sunrise at Campobello** ('60)	
TMC	**Wonder Boys** ('00)	📽 ★★ **Stand Up Guys** ('12, Comedy-Drama) Al Pacino. CC			:35 📽 **Mob Town** ('19) David Arquette, Jennifer Esposito. CC		
TNT	Equalizer	**All Elite Wrestling: Dynamite** (N) CC				📽 ★★★ **It** ('17)	
Travel	Paranorm.	**Paranormal Caught on Camera** (N) CC				**Paranormal:**	
TV Land	Andy G.	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond	Raymond
USA	:00 **NCIS**	**WWE NXT** (N) (L) CC				**Tyler Perry's Boo! A Madea Halloween**	
VH1	6:30 📽 ★★ **All Eyez on Me** ('17) Danai Gurira CC					**Romeo Must Die**	
WGN-A	**Last Man Standing**	**NewsNation** (N) (L) CC		**NewsNation** (N) (L) CC		**NewsNation** (N) (L) CC	

Readers' questions about masks continue

Elizabeth Ko & Eve Glazier
Ask the Doctors

Hello again, dear readers, and welcome back to our monthly letters column. You've kept our inbox lively this month, so we'll dive right into your questions and comments.

■ A reader in Oregon, where ongoing wildfires have created dangerous air quality, wondered about masks. "Will our masks that we wear for COVID help us with the wildfire smoke here?" they asked. The answer depends on the type of mask you're using. The cloth masks we're using to slow the spread of the novel coronavirus don't offer much protection from wildfire smoke. Although cloth masks can block the respiratory droplets that the virus travels on, they're not an efficient barrier against the infinitely smaller particulates in wildfire smoke. That requires the close weave of N95 masks, which remain in short supply. Without an appropriate mask, it's best to stay indoors with windows and doors closed, and run an air purifier if you have one.

■ The wildfire smoke question actually contains the answer to another reader's mask question. "How is it possible for a mask to be effective against the virus?" they asked. "The virus is so small that it must be able to fit through a mask." You're correct that the virus itself is microscopically small enough to fit through a cloth mask. However, a virus can't move on its own. The novel coronavirus travels via the respiratory droplets from an infected person's cough, sneeze or breath. Due to their size, those respiratory droplets can be blocked by a multi-layer cloth mask. When used along with social distancing to stay out of range of another person's droplet emissions, a mask can indeed reduce the risk of spreading and encountering the virus.

■ A reader from Oklahoma had a question in response to a column about alpha gal syndrome. This is when someone who was bitten by the Lone Star tick develops an allergy to red meat. "Why doesn't anyone ever mention that gelatin can cause a reaction when you have alpha gal?" they wrote. "I've had the allergy for 10 years, and my one and only (allergic reaction) came from consuming gelatin capsules." Thank you for your reminder that some people with alpha gal syndrome do become sensitized to gelatin, which is a protein obtained from animal byproducts. And, as you mention, gelatin can be present in capsules and is used in some medications as a stabilizer. As with all allergies, people living with alpha gal syndrome need to be alert to all potential triggers.

■ In response to a column that mentioned asymptomatic transmission of the coronavirus, a reader wondered if the terminology should be adjusted. "Doesn't the term 'pre-symptomatic' better describe what is happening?" Actually, both terms are accurate. Some people infected with the novel coronavirus never develop symptoms. If they pass along the virus, it's asymptomatic transmission. Pre-symptomatic transmission occurs when someone passes along the virus while in good health and then later develops symptoms.

Thank you to everyone for your letters and kind thoughts – they mean a lot to us. We hope you and your loved ones stay safe and well.

Eve Glazier, M.D., MBA, is an internist and associate professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Elizabeth Ko, M.D., is an internist and assistant professor of medicine at UCLA Health. Send your questions to askthedoctors@mednet.ucla.edu. Owing to the volume of mail, personal replies cannot be provided.

Husband's parents aren't interested in visits

Carolyn Hax

DEAR CAROLYN: We live in the same area as both my and my husband's parents. My in-laws aren't particularly interested in engaging us as a family with many children in tow, so we usually see them twice a year at their house.

In the past, we've invited them to our home, but they opt out or swing by for a brief, 30-minute visit. My husband has told his parents we want to see them more, but they haven't really responded, which is obviously their prerogative.

I get we are a big, loud family that may be stressful or unpleasant for them. I think even my husband has come to accept this, though it is still painful for him.

Some of the children are old enough now to not be very interested in seeing them, either. We welcomed a baby this spring, and these grandparents haven't reached out.

My husband expressed today that he wants to do Christmas at his parents' house this year. They are not socially distancing due to work. In the past I've been willing to do the Christmas visit, but I don't want to expose our new baby, young children or my high-risk parents, who we see a couple of times a month.

Honestly, I don't think my in-laws or our kids will really care if we skip this year, but my husband does, which is understandable. Any advice? – Christmas Weary Already

DEAR CHRISTMAS WEARY ALREADY: With a pandemic and a new baby, Christmas is an easy "no." I can go full orchestral with sympathy for your husband but sickness doesn't care. No gratuitous mixing.

Maybe this will help, though: Christmas was the wrong "yes" to begin with.

Your in-laws apparently want no part of a loud pile of kids. I can have feelings about that, too – I think it's terrible to blow off the grandkids, including a new baby, even as I sympathize with noise and chaos sensitivity – but your in-laws apparently don't care. This is how they've chosen to be.

So that's what you and your husband have to work with.

Why why why, then, would you and he keep trying to draw them closer by the exact means that repels them? Why keep dragging the whole pile of kids there, or inviting the in-laws into the soup?

They live close by. Your husband can bring one child with him for a visit. One parent/one child at a time, masked and properly distanced, on a rotation, to give his parents a chance to know each one.

With repetition, the visits can become personal and even mini-traditions – maybe with this one they get ice cream, that one they talk baseball, the other one ... who knows. Give them room to find out.

There's a risk here, obviously, that you'd be exposing each child to the full force of the in-laws' indifference. Maybe you've misread them and it's not the noise that puts them off, it's an utter lack of interest in being grandparental grandparents. But you'd learn that pretty quickly, no?

And the older ones already have some emotional calluses, so after a blah visit you can share a group shrug and move on.

Offer this gift to your husband – no to Christmas, but a devoted yes to changing the way you think.

Email Carolyn Hax at tellme@washpost.com, follow her on Facebook at www.facebook.com/carolyn.hax or chat with her online at noon each Friday at www.washingtonpost.com.

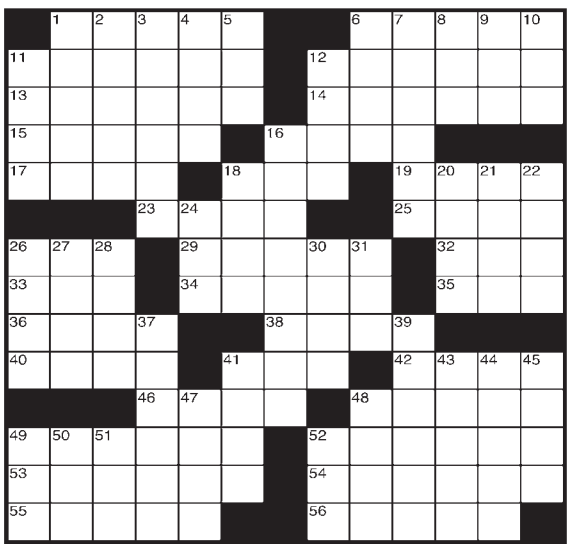
CROSSWORD

ACROSS
1 TV letter turner
6 Bamboo muncher
11 Round Table knight
12 European capital
13 Nome home
14 Flammable gas
15 Ease of manner
16 Foundation
17 Young lady of Sp.
18 Period of time
19 — Hashanah
23 Radius neighbor
25 Active volcano
26 Sweater sizes
29 Talked about
32 Jones of fiction
33 Want-ad abbr.
34 Strangely
35 Startled cries
36 Ricci or Foch
38 Was very thrifty
40 Helper (abbr.)
41 Almost-grads
42 Candied items
46 Tool sets
48 Follow
49 Imprudent
52 Eulogy content
53 Garden root
54 Reveal
55 Vast chasm
56 Shaggy flower

DOWN
1 Courage
2 Be in store
3 Cruise stop
4 Running shoe name
5 Collected sayings
6 Reassures Rover
7 Hold firmly
8 Brady Bill opposer
9 Huge racket
10 Summer quaff
11 Disparities
12 Intend
16 Lodgers
18 Oklahoma town
20 Sarge's pooch
21 Fast-talk
22 Amateur radio operators
24 Thai neighbor
26 Lucy Lawless role
27 Fragrant necklaces
28 All boys
30 Taiga denizens
31 Pigment
37 Guitarist Chet —
39 Energetic person
41 Ladder type
43 From Bali
44 Rumpled
45 Hunt for
47 Nile goddess
48 Flying piscivore
49 Tony-winner — Hagen
50 Protuberance
51 Droll
52 Small dog

Answer to Previous Puzzle

H	O	P		A	T	M			A	S	P	S
I	D	A		V	E	E	P		C	O	A	L
K	I	N		A	S	T	I		T	A	R	A
E	N	T	A	I	L		Q	U	I	R	K	Y
			F	L	A		U	R	N			
I	N	C	A	S		W	A	G	G	E	D	
T	E	A	R		W	A	N	E		A	R	C
D	A	S		H	A	F	T		B	R	A	D
	P	A	L	E	S	T		A	U	N	T	S
			L	E	T		Y	I	N			
A	L	K	A	L	I		I	S	S	U	E	D
P	O	E	M		N	O	E	L		M	R	I
E	D	N	A		G	A	L	E		P	I	N
S	E	T	S			T	D	S		S	E	E



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JUMBLE

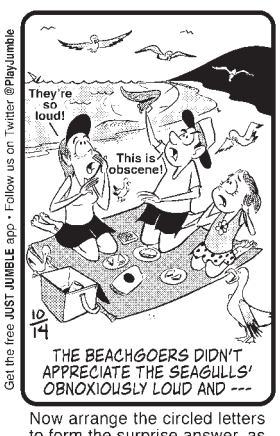
Unscramble these Jumbles, one letter to each square, to form four ordinary words.

ALGED

NGROP

SCAWEH

FLYUEE



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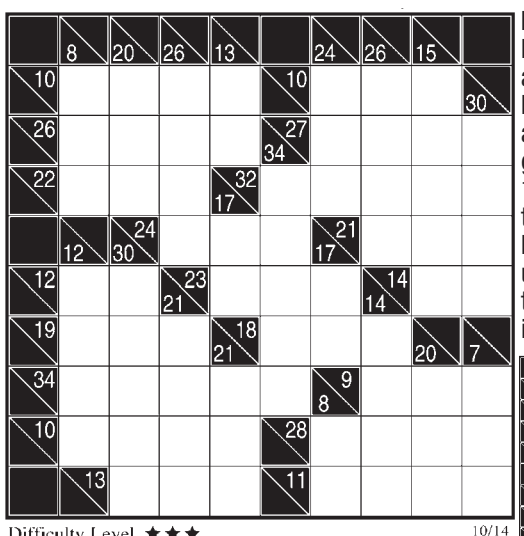
Now arrange the circled letters to form the surprise answer, as suggested by the above cartoon.

" " (Answers tomorrow)

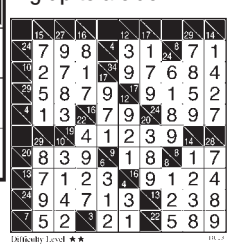
Yesterday's Jumbles: EXUDE FLOSS LOTION CANNED
Answer: When he ran over the tire spikes, his front tires lost air in — ONE SECOND FLAT

KAKURO



Difficulty Level ★★★ 10/14

How to play: Numbers above the slash are across clues; numbers below the slash are down clues. The goal is to enter digits 1-9 in the white cells to add up to the number clues. You cannot use any digit more than once when adding up to a clue.



Difficulty Level ★★ 10-14

BRIDGE

Jay Leno said, "Here's something to think about: How come you never see a headline like 'Psychic Wins Lottery'?"

Since bridge has gone online, some players – even a couple of world champions! – have become psychic, finding amazingly successful bids and plays. What they do is log in under two usernames. One plays at a table while the other kibitzes, so has the full deal on the screen. The most blatant I spotted was the person who overcalled two clubs when vulnerable on a three-card suit and only 3 points. The opponents could make only one slam – six clubs!

In today's deal, everyone was honest; otherwise, the auction and play would have gone differently.

North's raise to four hearts was preemptive, promising five trumps and a weak hand. Then, when East competed with five clubs, South was in a quandary. Did partner have club values, and were the opponents out of their depth? What could have happened in five clubs doubled?

South, unsure, rebid five hearts. West happily doubled and led the spade three (instead of the top-of-nothing nine). When East unwittingly put up his king, South (worried about 3-0 hearts) won, gave up a diamond, won the second spade and cashed the heart ace. When both opponents followed, declarer claimed for plus 850.

North 10-14-20
♠ 8 6 5
♥ J 9 7 5 3
♦ 3
♣ Q J 5 3

West
♠ 9 4 3
♥ K Q
♦ K 5 2
♣ A 9 7 6 4

East
♠ K 7 2
♥ 10
♦ A Q J 9 6
♣ K 10 8 2

South
♠ A Q J 10
♥ A 8 6 4 2
♦ 10 8 7 4
♣ —

Dealer: East
Vulnerable: Both

South	West	North	East
			1♦
1♥	2♣	4♥	5♣
5♥	Dbl.	All Pass	

Opening lead: ♠ 3

Five clubs doubled costs 1100 if North leads a psychic diamond (or a spade, and South shifts to a diamond at trick two). In an online duplicate, no one found this defense, and plus 800 was worse than the numerous 850s.

SUDOKU

DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

7			5				6	
			6	4			7	9
3		8	7	2			4	
				1				5
		3		5		9		
4				6				
	4			3	5	1		8
8	2			9	6			
	3				8			2

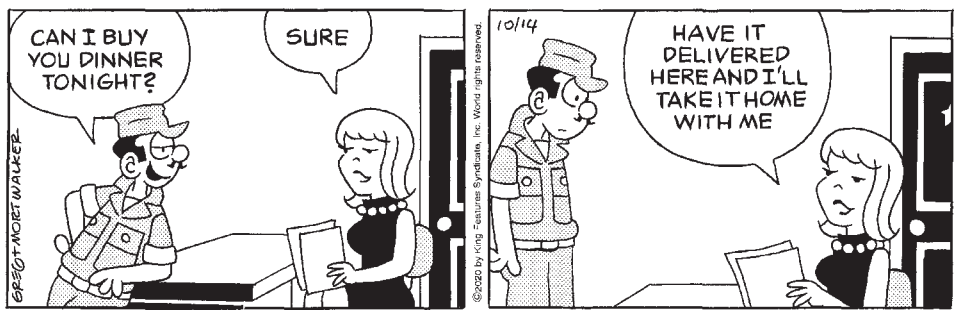
10/14 © 2020 Dist. by Andrews McMeel Syndication for UFS

How to play: Complete the grid so that every row, column and 3x3 box contains every digit from 1 to 9.

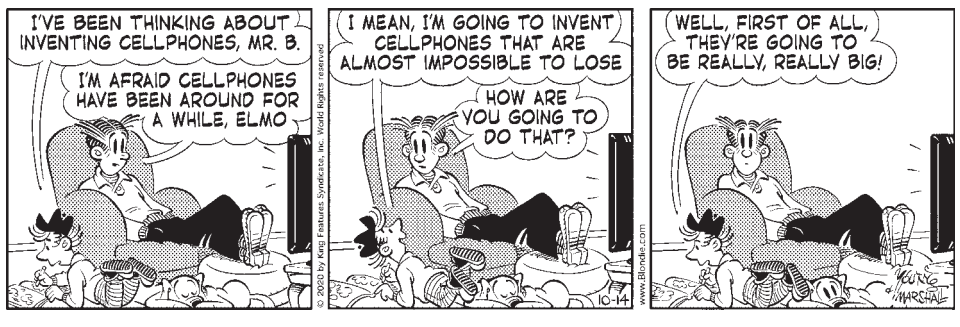
PREVIOUS SOLUTION

3	2	1	8	5	9	6	7	4
6	4	9	2	1	7	5	8	3
8	7	5	4	6	3	1	2	9
5	3	2	7	4	1	9	6	8
4	8	6	5	9	2	3	1	7
1	9	7	6	3	8	2	4	5
7	5	8	9	2	6	4	3	1
9	6	3	1	8	4	7	5	2
2	1	4	3	7	5	8	9	6

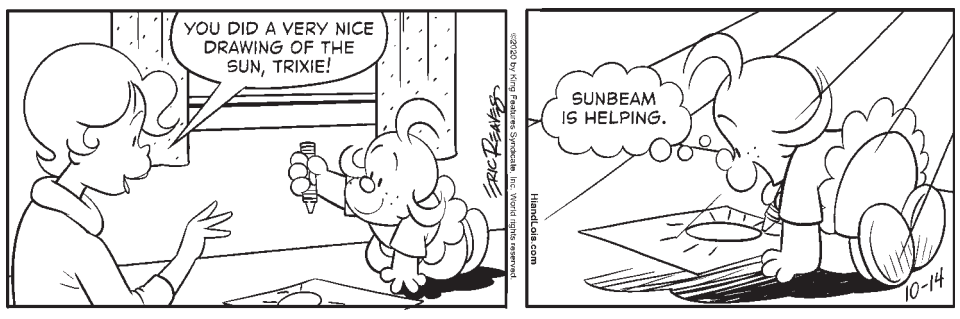
BEETLE BAILEY



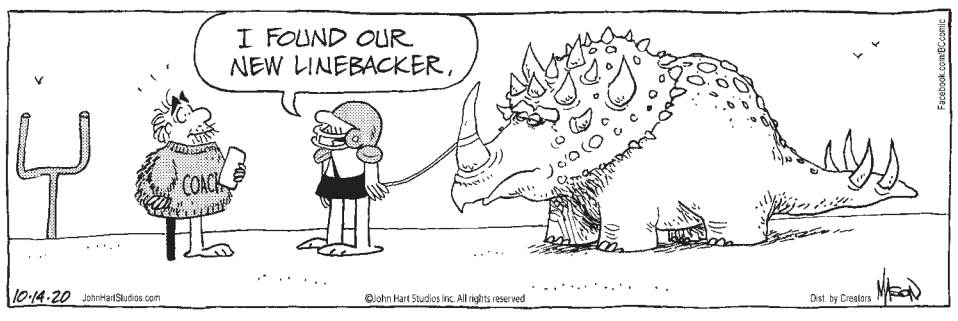
BLONDIE



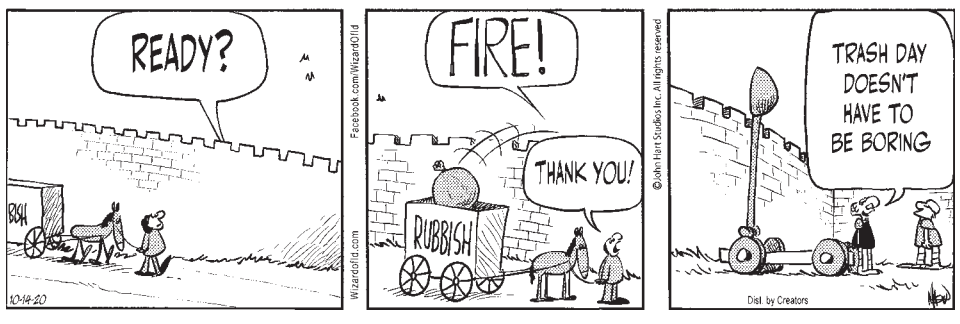
HI & LOIS



BC

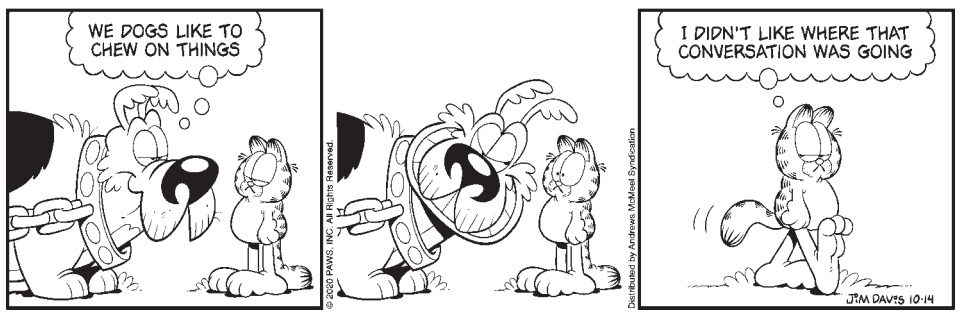


WIZARD OF ID

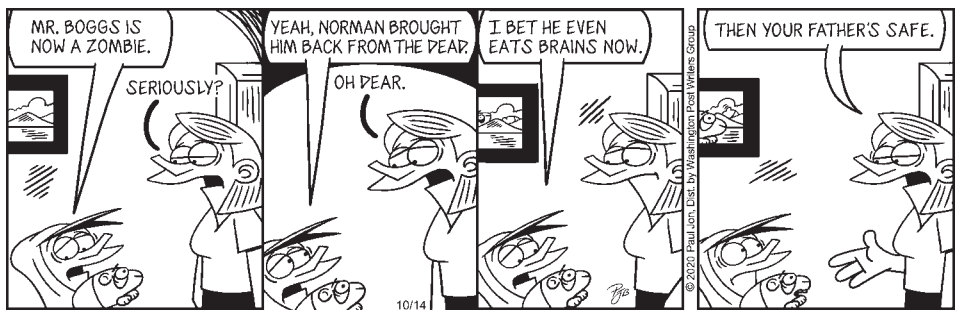


DILBERT

GARFIELD

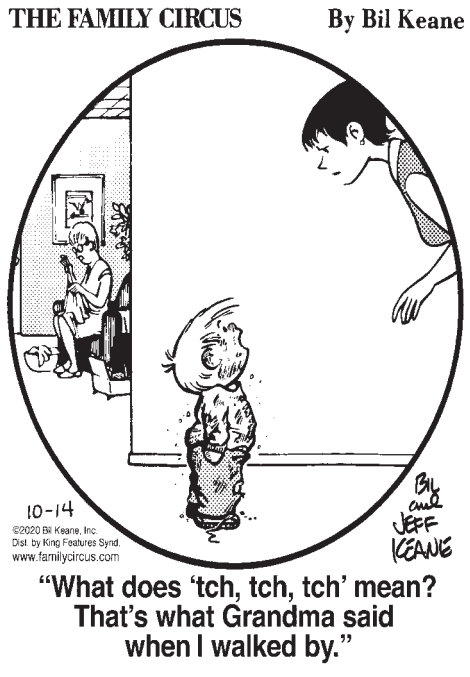


FORT KNOX

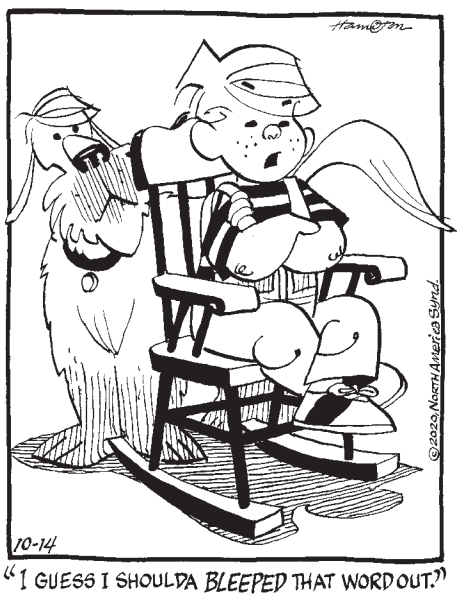


PICKLES

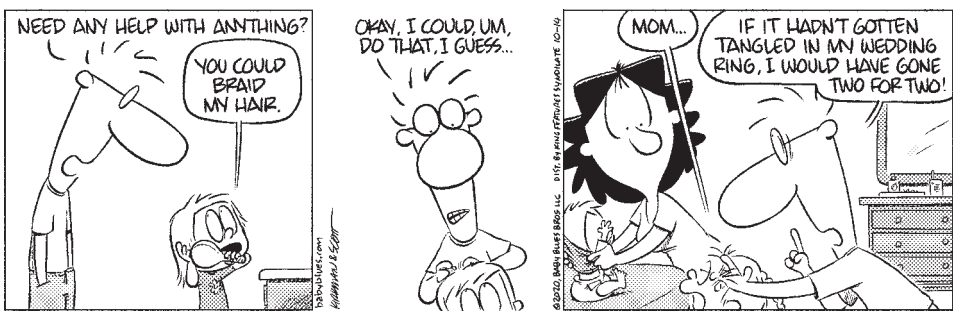
FAMILY CIRCUS



DENNIS THE MENACE

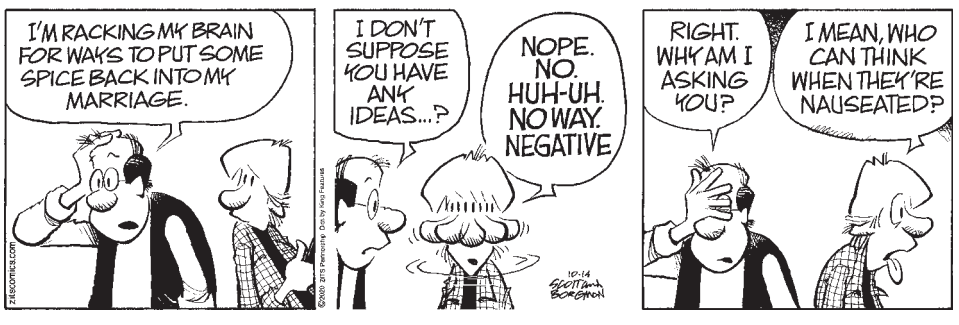


BABY BLUES



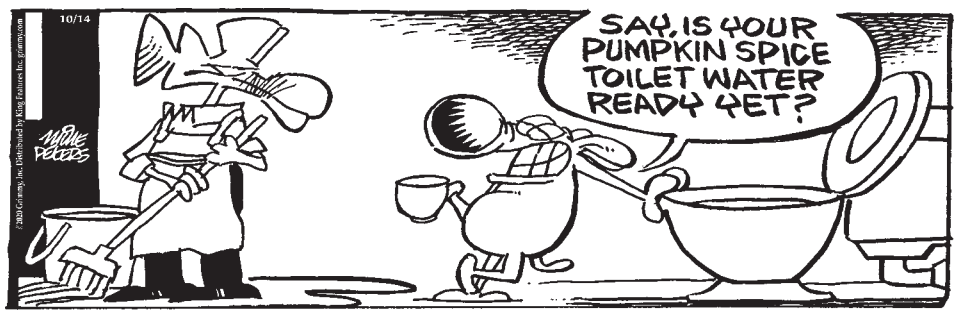
CURTIS

ZITS

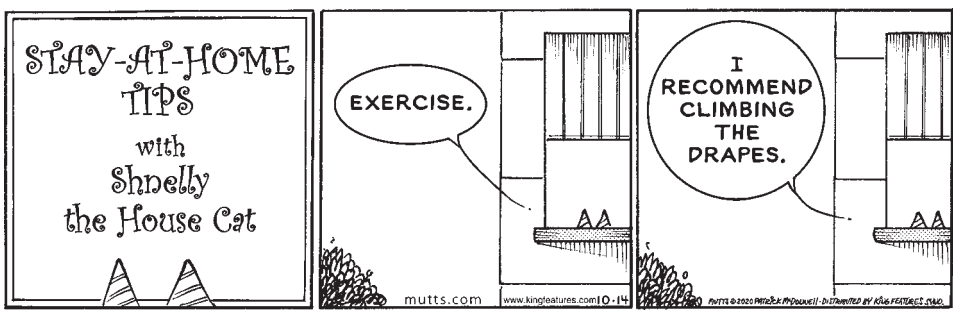


HAGAR THE HORRIBLE

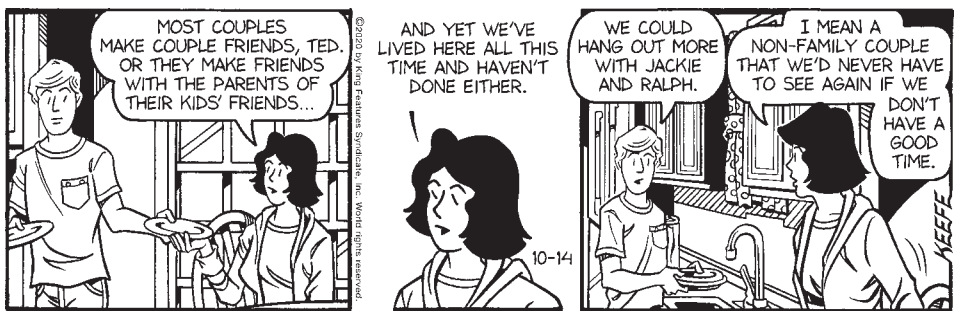
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM



MUTTS



SALLY FORTH



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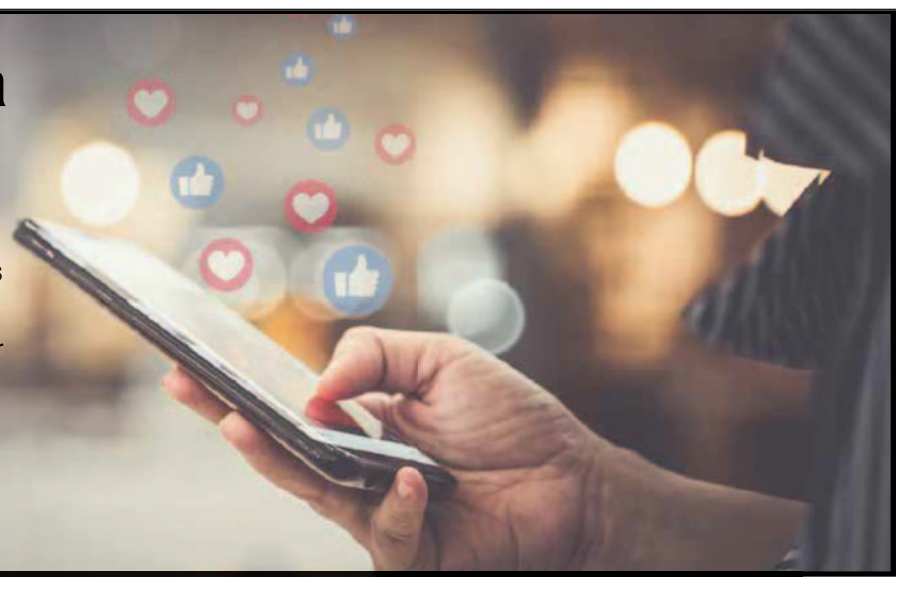

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Tony Wittkowski
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Louise Wrege
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Jane Ammeson
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Julie Swidwa
@HPSwidwa

Ben Sanders
@HPBenSanders

Ben Spencer
@HPBenSpencer

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Hours: Monday - Friday 8am-4pm EST
Saturday & Sunday 8am-11am EST

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utilities included
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Clean, small, 2 bedroom, 1 bath, in town LaPorte in a good neighborhood. Newer paint and carpet throughout. Central air, 1-car garage, and all appliances included. NO SMOKERS and NO PETS! $700 plus utilities. 1yr lease, security deposit, credit check and good references required. Serious inquires only. Call for open house viewing date and time.
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Benton Harbor, MI
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and 2 bedroom
Homes For Rent
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269-925-2500

LEGALS

LEGALS

Public Notice
Hartford Township
61310 CR 687
Hartford, MI 49057

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the Public Accuracy Test for the November 3, 2020 General Election has been scheduled for Monday, October 26, 2020 at 11:00 a.m. at the Township Hall at 61310 CR 687, Hartford, MI 49057.

The Public Accuracy Test is conducted to demonstrate that the computer program used to record and count the vote's cast at the election meet the requirements of law.

This notice is posted in compliance with the Open Meetings Act, Public Act 267 of 1976, as amended, MCL41.72a (2) and (3), and the Americans with Disabilities Act.

The Hartford Township Board will provide necessary reasonable auxiliary aids and services, such as signers for the hearing impaired and audio tapes of printed materials being considered at the meeting, to individuals with disabilities at the meeting upon 1 days' notice.

Individuals with disabilities requiring auxiliary aids or services should contact:

Julie Sweet
61310 County
Road 687
Hartford, MI 49057
269-621-4658 ext 3
hartfordtownshipclerk@gmail.com

ANNOUNCEMENTS

EMPLOYMENT

ADMINISTRATIVE

The City of South Haven is seeking a full-time City Clerk to record City Council minutes and ordinances and execute all election operations in accordance with State Law and the City Charter.
Ensures that all records of the City are updated and processed and are easily retrievable for the general public. Serves as the Administrative Assistant to the City Manager.
Associates degree in business administration, accounting, public administration or related field and two years of related experience is required.
Bachelor's degree with two years of related experience is preferred.
To view full job posting and apply, go to southhavenmi.gov/human_resources.
Deadline for application is Nov 13. EOE

GENERAL HELP

Boys' JV Basketball Coach
Special Education Teacher Assistant

River Valley
School District
Employment info at:
www.rivervalley
schools.org
Deadline: until filled

Boys' MS Basketball Coach
Girls' MS Basketball Coach

River Valley
School District
Employment info at:
www.rivervalley
schools.org
Deadline: Until filled

Stevensville, MI
Delivery Crew
Assistant
$13-20 / hour
Drivers License
Required
Assist on Deliveries
Perform Cleanings
General Help
Sensationalhottubs
@att.net

The City of South Haven is seeking a full-time Wastewater Treatment Plant Operator. This position is responsible for collection system operation and maintenance. Performs laboratory analysis and creates/records data to report for and operate the Wastewater Treatment Plant. High school diploma or GED required. State of Michigan Wastewater Operator certification is required within 24 months of hire. Must hold a valid State of Michigan driver's license. To view full job posting and apply, go to south-haven.com/human_resources. Deadline for application is October 23. EOE

GENERAL HELP

Benton Harbor, MI
Help Wanted!
$300 Sign on Bonus!
Apply in Person at
Sparkle Quick Lube
2080 M 139
Benton Harbor

La Porte County, IN
Commercial Food Systems, a customer service focused foodservice distributor based in Indiana, is looking for Delivery Driver candidates for it's La Porte County warehouse location. Work schedule is daily, Monday - Friday. Candidate must possess a valid Chauffeur/For Hire license. Please contact us at (317)926-4237, or by email, swright@commercialfoodsystems.com.

The Town of Trail Creek is seeking applications for a part time street employee. The candidate will work through out the week and some weekend hours, in addition to possibly being on call for a tree down or during the winter months. The candidate must have the following skills and knowledge to be eligible:
Perform routine general maintenance, operate and utilize all town equipment as directed by the street commissioner. Assist in leaf pickup , patching potholes, storm maintenance and other misc. jobs given by the street commissioner. Must have high diploma, valid drivers license and must be able to lift or carry 50lbs.
Please contact the street commissioner, Chris Ott to set up a time to get an application at 219-872-4780

White Space Sells

GENERAL HELP

Village Clerk – Village of Galien

Responsibilities include attending meetings, recording minutes, completing clerical duties, bookkeeping and payroll, tax filings, responding to resident's questions, recording and maintaining municipal documents.
Other duties include communicating and working with other departments and agencies, preparing grants, publishing ordinances and resolutions, and providing support to board of trustees.

Skills needed:
MS Office
(Excel, Word,
And Outlook),
Quickbooks
and general
office experience.

Office Hours are Tues.: 8:30 a.m. – 12:30 p.m. and Wed.: 1:00 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Additional hours will be required at times.

Please send your resume to:
Village Clerk
Village of Galien
PO Box 296
Galien, MI 49113,
drop it off in the Black drop box at 121 S.
Cleveland Ave.,
Galien, MI or
email it to:
clerk@villageofgalien.org

BENTON CHARTER TOWNSHIP

ACCEPTING APPLICATIONS FOR WATER DISTRIBUTION SYSTEM OPERATOR

Benton Charter Township will be accepting

LAKE CHARTER TOWNSHIP

NOTICE OF PUBLIC ACCURACY TEST FOR THE November 3, 2020 PRESIDENTIAL GENERAL ELECTION

The Lake Charter Township Clerk will hold a public accuracy test of the electronic tabulating equipment and the disabled equipment, to demonstrate to the public that votes cast will be accurately and counted for all offices and on all proposals.

The accuracy test will be held on Wednesday, October 21, 2020 at 10:30 a.m., at the Lake Charter Township Hall, 3220 Shawnee Road, Bridgman, Michigan.

Gloria A. Payne, Clerk

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The Herald-Palladium

Now Hiring

Newspaper Inserter

The Herald-Palladium is looking to add to our current staff for our production/distribution department. The main function of the position is to work as part of a team while operating the equipment to insert advertisements into the newspapers produced at our print site. Must have attention to detail to ensure the products are inserted properly.

Job Type: Part-time

To apply: Email Bruce
btheisen@heraldpalladium.com

No Calls Please!

GENERAL HELP

applications for a Water Distribution System Operator beginning October 8, 2020 through October 16, 2020.

This is an entry level position. The position requires semiskilled work in the installation and removal, connecting and disconnecting of water meters. Work is performed under the direction of the Water Distribution System Supervisor. The Water Distribution System Operator must be able to routinely perform, after sufficient training, duties involving water distribution system construction, repair, operations, including water meter reading, installation, testing, and repair, cross connection compliance, and general system administration.

All applicants must possess a high school diploma, must obtain an S-4 operator certification within the time requirements of the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality.
In addition, all applicants must be able to pass physical examination and drug/alcohol screening test, background check, and possess a commercial driver's license. Other minimum qualifications apply.

Beginning salary is $30,000 to $40,000 with benefits.

GENERAL HELP

Applications may be obtained at the Benton Charter Township Hall, 1725 Territorial Rd., Bldg. B., Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022. All applications and/or resumes should be sent to Mike Baldwin, Water Department Supervisor, 555 N. Crystal Ave., Benton Harbor, Michigan 49022, email mbaldwin@bentoncharter township-mi.gov
E.O.E.

Carolyn Phillips
Township Clerk

TRUCKING

La Porte, IN
Immediate openings for class A CDL drivers.
Home every night.
Flatbed and/or dump trailer experience preferred.
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3999 E Hupp Road
Bldg. R-2-6
La Porte, IN 46350

EMPLOYMENT INFORMATION

Country Manor
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in Bridgman
Now Hiring
Part-time Fri & Sat
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Will Train
Call Debbie btw
9 am to 6 pm
269-326-1225

FINANCIAL

GARAGE /ESTATE SALES

MERCHANDISE

People DO Read Small Ads. You Did!

The Herald-Palladium

Now Hiring

The Herald-Palladium is looking for a Customer Service Representative

Responsibilities include answering phone, email, classified ads & telemarketing.
Will be working in a team environment as well as independently.
Needs to be organized, have strong attention to detail, able to multi-task and work in a fast-paced atmosphere.
Must be able to communicate effectively and professionally.

Customer Service and Sales Experience preferred, but willing to train the right person.
Computer Experience Required.
Must have reliable transportation.

Email your resume to Angelique:
apetersen@thehp.com

No Calls Please!

WANTED TO RENT/ BUY/TRADE

Benton Harbor, MI
3 Pillars Music is looking to buy record albums from 1970s to present, older guitars and comic books.
Please contact Tom at 269-313-7001 or 3pillarsmusic@gmail.com

MISC. ITEMS FOR SALE

Comic Books, Science Fiction Books, Pulp Magazines and Artwork wanted! Will pay cash immediately for collections large and small. Call or Text Steve: 574.276.4877 Email: mrpolyester1@comcast.net.

St. Joseph, MI

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call 269-429-1965
for appt to see

PETS

CATS/DOGS/PETS

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Male - $5
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CATS/DOGS/PETS

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Call 269-612-2004

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HOROSCOPE

By EUGENIA LAST

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 14
Keep a level head, take one day at a time and be at peace with yourself. Letting the past consume you or giving in to demanding people will hold you back, but energetically pursuing something you love will lead to an exciting adventure. Embrace the future with gratitude.

LIBRA (Sept. 23-Oct. 22) Take a pass when faced with demands. Choose what makes you happy, and don't feel guilty for wanting what brings you joy. Today should be all about you and your priorities.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23-Nov. 21) Pay attention to detail, and you will outshine any challenger. Take a unique approach to life, love and happiness. A positive change at home will allow you to spend more time fulfilling a goal.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22-Dec. 21) Take a moment to mull over sensitive issues. How you treat others will determine how willing others are to help you. Do things for yourself; don't rely on anyone for anything.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22-Jan. 19) Push forward. Refuse to let others slow you down. Take charge of your destiny and make things happen. Live in the moment, let go of the past and watch opportunities unfold. Romance is favored.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20-Feb. 18) Concentrate on investments, legal matters and contracts. Abide by the rules, and leave no room for error. Refuse to let others sidetrack you, tempt you to cut corners or take on too much.

PISCES (Feb. 19-March 20) You'll thrive on change, in-depth discussions and investments. A partnership will enhance how you do things. Love, romance and commitment are favored.

ARIES (March 21-April 19) Push hard and live up to your promises. Refuse to let anyone's negativity stand in your way. Treat challenges as opportunities to show your worth. Don't let anger hold you back.

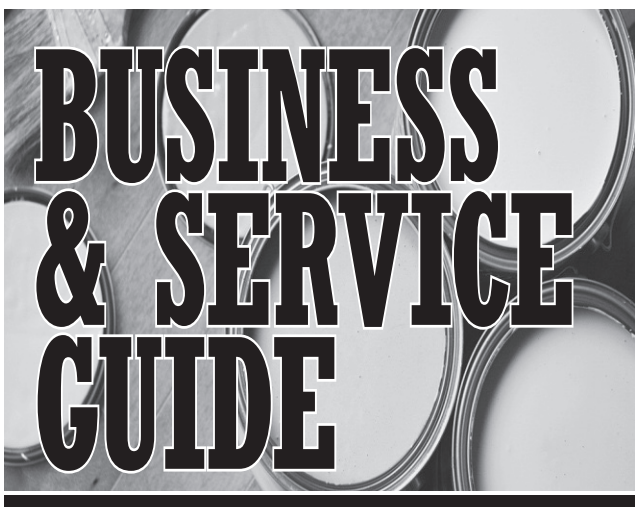
TAURUS (April 20-May 20) A change is in your best interest. Refuse to let someone's financial burden become your own. Offer suggestions, advice and moral support – nothing more.

GEMINI (May 21-June 20) Think twice before you meddle or gossip. You'll get more than you bargained for if you don't stick to your schedule and take care of responsibilities. Leave well enough alone.

CANCER (June 21-July 22) Keep your temper under control to surpass expectations. Don't waste time disagreeing with someone who will never see things your way. Concentrate on home, family and meaningful relationships.

LEO (July 23-Aug. 22) Don't be fooled by someone spouting false information. Stick to your beliefs and choose to put your energy where it will have the most impact. Select your friends and associates wisely.

VIRGO (Aug. 23-Sept. 22) Make a statement, do your part and support what's best for everyone. Share your feelings and concerns in order to gain peace of mind. Love and romance will enhance your life.



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Lawn Clean-Up
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Terry Graves
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tgraves.alllawnservices@gmail.com

hp FOOD & HEALTH

IN BRIEF

Lakeland earns Chest Pain Center accreditation

All three Spectrum Health Lakeland hospitals recently were granted accreditation to the Chest Pain Center by Corazon, a national leader in services for the cardiovascular specialty.

Lakeland Medical Center, St. Joseph was granted accreditation with percutaneous coronary intervention (PCI) services, formerly known as angioplasty with stent. Lakeland hospitals in Niles and Watervliet were granted accreditation without PCI.

The accreditation proves the programs have met the Corazon Accreditation Standards for Chest Pain Accreditation and maintained compliance with national and societal guidelines for the management of chest pain patients, according to a news release.

Corazon has worked with more than 600 hospitals nationally to evaluate, re-engineer or implement best-practice PCI programs.

For more information about cardiac services, visit www.lakelandheart.com.

Lakeland earns 'Most Wired' recognition

ST. JOSEPH — Spectrum Health Lakeland has earned Level 8 certifications in acute and ambulatory care in the 2020 College of Healthcare Information Management Executives (CHIME) Digital Health Most Wired recognition, according to a news release.

The CHIME Digital Health Most Wired program conducts an annual survey to assess how effectively health care organizations apply core and advanced technologies into their clinical and business programs to improve health and care in their communities.

According to CHIME, organizations in Level 8 have used technology and strategies to help them analyze their data and achieve meaningful clinical and efficiency outcomes. Level 8 organizations are experimenting with more advanced technologies, like telehealth, that expand access to care.

A total of 29,135 organizations were represented in the 2020 Digital Health Most Wired program, which this year included four surveys: domestic, ambulatory, long-term care and international.

They assessed the adoption, integration and impact of technology in health care organizations at all stages – from early development to industry leading.

This is the third year CHIME has overseen the program. Each year, CHIME has expanded its survey to capture more types of organizations that serve patients across the continuum of care.

For more information, visit chimecentral.org.

PATH workshop begins Monday

The Region IV Area Agency on Aging will offer the Personal Action Toward Health workshop virtually via Zoom beginning Monday.

PATH teaches practical skills for living a healthy life with an ongoing health condition. Participants will learn how to: deal with the challenges of not feeling well, talk to health care workers and family members, overcome stress and relax, increase energy, handle everyday activities more easily and how to stay independent.

Classes will meet from 1:30-3:30 p.m. Mondays through Nov. 23. Family members, friends and caregivers are encouraged to attend.

The class is free, but donations will be accepted. Class size is limited, so registration is required.

For more information, or to register, contact Julie Schwarz at 982-7759 or julieschwarz@areaagencyonaging.org.

Talking recipes with Food Network's Ina Garten

Photo provided / Quentin Bacon

Chicken Pot Pie Soup is featured in "Modern Comfort Food" by Ina Garten.

"When I was a kid, my mother would cut up hot dogs to add to canned split pea soup for me to eat," Ina Garten tells me from the barn in West Hampton, N.Y., where she creates and tests the recipes published in her cookbooks and featured on her Food Network show, "Barefoot Contessa."

Jane Ammeson

I tell her I ate so much split pea soup when I was a kid that my mother told me I was going to turn green.

Garten laughs, though it really isn't very funny. It's just the way she is: polite and friendly, as if she and I are good friends. Not what it really is: me, a stranger, interviewing her in a spot with poor cellphone reception. During the 45-minute call we get disconnected at least five times.

But back to the split pea soup.

When Garten was thinking of recipes for "Modern Comfort Food," her latest book, and the 12th in her Barefoot Contessa series, it was one of the dishes she wanted to include. But not just any split pea soup.

"My soup is from scratch, and instead of hot dogs, I sauteed kielbasa," she says. "I love the way crispy sausage and the creamy soup contrast with each other."

Among the 85 recipes in her book, she transforms the grilled cheese sandwich of childhood into Cheddar & Chutney Grilled Cheese and the frozen pot pies your mom kept in the freezer in case she was late into Chicken Pot Pie Soup with Puff Pastry Croutons.

Burnt hamburgers made by your dad the one time he tried to grill are now Smashed Hamburgers with Caramelized Onions.

When I mention I love how her recipes always work – because often it's the opposite with celebrity cookbooks – she responds with a laugh, saying, "Ya think?"

Her recipes are strenuously tested. It took her six years to perfect her recipe for Boston Cream Pie. She couldn't get it right until she finally found the exact flavor matches for the cake, chocolate glaze and pastry cream layers.

Some, no make that most, of us would have given up or just said "good enough." But not Garten, which is why the Boston Cream Pie she hoped to include two cookbooks ago didn't make it until this one.

"Sometimes it takes me a day to create a recipe that works just right, sometimes weeks or even months," she says, noting that she loves getting up in the morning knowing she has a long list of recipes to test.

She also has advice on how to use her recipes.

"Do it once the way it's written using the same ingredients, then you'll know the way it is supposed to be," she says, noting that someone once complained about one of her recipes not working, and when she drilled down as to why, she discovered three of the seven ingredients weren't used. "It's like someone saying the chocolate cake didn't turn out, and then they tell you they didn't use any chocolate in it."

The following recipes are from "Modern Comfort Food."

Chicken Pot Pie Soup

Makes 6 servings.

- 3 chicken breasts, skin-on, bone-in (2 1/2 to 3 pounds)
- Olive oil
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper
- 6 tablespoons unsalted butter
- 5 cups leeks, white and light green parts, chopped (3 leeks) (see note)
- 4 cups fennel, chopped, tops and cores removed (2 bulbs)
- 3 cups carrots, scrubbed and diced (5 medium)
- 1 tablespoon minced garlic (3 cloves)
- 1 tablespoon fresh tarragon leaves, chopped
- 1/4 cup Wondra flour
- 3/4 cup cream sherry, divided
- 7 cups chicken stock
- 1 (2-by-3-inch) piece Parmesan cheese rind
- 1 (10-ounce) box frozen peas
- 1 cup frozen whole pearl onions
- 1/4 cup fresh parsley, minced
- Puff Pastry Croutons (see recipe below)

Heat the oven to 350 degrees.

Place the chicken on a sheet pan, skin side up. Rub the skin with olive oil, and season generously with salt and pepper.

Roast for 35 minutes, until a thermometer registers 130 to 140 degrees. Set aside until cool enough to handle. Remove and discard the skin and bones, and dice the chicken into 1-inch pieces. Set aside.

Meanwhile, melt the butter in a medium, heavy-bottomed pot or Dutch oven over medium heat. Add the leeks, fennel and carrots, and saute over medium-high heat for 10 minutes, stirring occasionally, until the leeks are tender but not browned.

Stir in the garlic and tarragon, and cook for one minute. Sprinkle on the flour, and cook, stirring constantly, for 2 minutes.

Add 1/2 cup of the sherry, the chicken stock, 4 teaspoons salt, 1 1/2 teaspoons pepper, and the Parmesan rind. Bring to a boil, lower the heat, and simmer, partially covered, for 20 minutes.

Add the chicken, peas and onions, and simmer uncovered for 5 minutes. Off the heat, remove the Parmesan rind and add the remaining 1/4 cup sherry and the parsley. Serve hot in large shallow bowls with two Puff Pastry Croutons on top.

Note: To prep the leeks, cut off the dark green leaves at a 45-degree angle and discard. Chop the white and light green parts, wash well in a bowl of water, and spin dry in a salad spinner. Wet leeks will steam rather than sauté.

Puff Pastry Croutons

Makes 12 croutons.

- All-purpose flour
- 1 sheet frozen puff pastry, defrosted (see note)
- 1 extra-large egg beaten with 1 tablespoon heavy cream, for egg wash
- Kosher salt and freshly ground black pepper

Heat the oven to 400 degrees. Line a sheet pan with parchment paper.

Lightly dust a board and rolling pin with flour. Unfold the sheet of puff pastry on the board, dust it lightly with flour, and lightly roll the pastry just to smooth out the folds.

With a star-shaped or fluted round cookie cutters, cut 12 stars, or rounds of pastry and place them on the prepared sheet pan. Brush the tops with the egg wash, sprinkle with salt and pepper, and bake for 8 to 10 minutes, until puffed and golden brown.

Note: Defrost puff pastry overnight in the refrigerator. You want the pastry to be very cold when you bake it.

Jane Ammeson can be contacted via email at janeammeson@gmail.com or by writing to Focus, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085.

More online

Read this story online at www.TheHP.com/features to find the Boston Cream Pie recipe from "Modern Comfort Food."

BLOOD DRIVES

American Red Cross

- Noon-5:45 p.m. today, Lions Club, 227 CR 665, Paw Paw.
- Noon-5:45 p.m. Friday, St. Mary of Assumption Church, 28 W. Ash St., Three Oaks.
- 11 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Tuesday, Silver Beach Center, 333 Broad St., St. Joseph.
- 1-6:45 p.m. Tuesday, Andrews University Pioneer Memorial Church, 400 University Blvd., Berrien Springs.
- 11 a.m.-4:45 p.m. Oct. 23, Dowagiac Public Safety and Fire Department, 302 Wolf St., Dowagiac.

Versiti Blood Center of Michigan

- Noon-7 p.m. today, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.
- 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Saturday, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.
- 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Sunday, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.
- Noon-6 p.m. Oct. 21, Lakeland Hospital, Niles, lower meeting room, 31 N. St. Joseph Ave., Niles.
- Noon-7 p.m. Oct. 21, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.
- 10 a.m.-4 p.m. Oct. 22, Pokagon Band of Potawatomi offices, multi-purpose room, 58620 Sink Road, Dowagiac.
- 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Oct. 24, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.
- 7 a.m.-1 p.m. Oct. 25, Versiti Blood Center of Michigan, 2710 Cleveland Ave., St. Joseph.

Donors must be at least 17 years old and weigh at least 110 pounds. To find more drives, visit www.redcrossblood.org or donate.michigan.versiti.org/donor/schedules/zip.

BREAKFASTS AND BANQUETS

BURGERS: American Legion Post 518, 4789 Weechik Road, New Troy, will have a hamburger night from 5-8 p.m. today. Cost is $5 for a burger, fries and salad. Cost is $6.50 for a burger, onion rings and salad. All orders are carryout. Order upon arrival, or call ahead at 426-3542.

FISH AND CHICKEN: American Legion Post 344 will host a drive-thru fish and chicken strip fry from 5-8 p.m. Saturday. Orders can be called in to 545-8280 starting at 4 p.m. When ordering, state whether you want fish, chicken or a combination.

FISH FRY: American Legion Post 518, 4789 Weechik Road, New Troy, will hold a fish fry from 5-8 p.m. Oct. 23. Dinners are $8.25 for fish, $9.50 for a half walleye, $16 for a whole walleye, $7 for a half chicken or $7 for shrimp. All meals include french fries and coleslaw. All orders are carryout. Order upon arrival, or call ahead at 426-3542.

Breakfasts and Banquets appears on Wednesdays. The deadline is the preceding Wednesday at noon. Civic groups sponsoring fundraising meals, classes or other food-related events should send information in writing to: Focus, The Herald-Palladium, P.O. Box 128, St. Joseph, MI 49085; or email focus@TheHP.com.

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